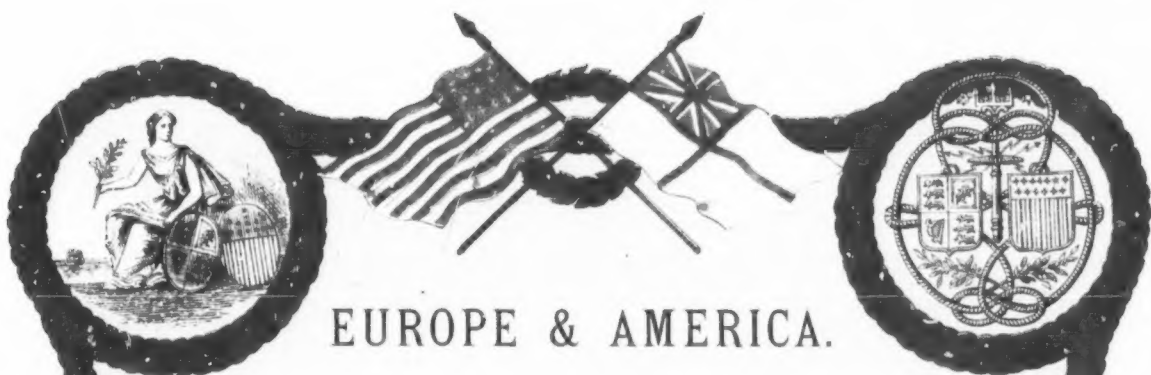




EUROPE & AMERICA.

Reports of Proceedings

AT AN

INAUGURATION BANQUET

GIVEN BY

MR. CYRUS W. FIELD,

OF NEW YORK,

At The Palace Hotel, Buckingham Gate, London,

On *FRIDAY, the 15th APRIL, 1864.*

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE RENEWAL BY THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY AFTER
A LAPSE OF SIX YEARS OF THEIR EFFORTS TO UNITE IRELAND AND
NEWFOUNDLAND BY MEANS OF A SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH CABLE:

AND AT AN

ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

GIVEN ALSO BY

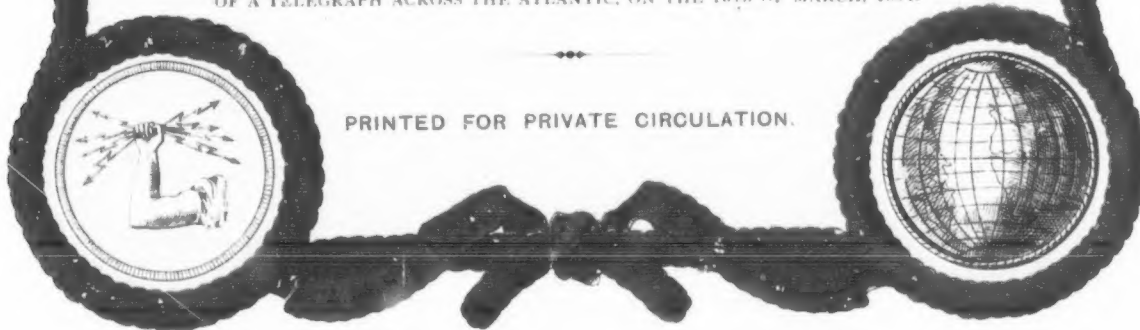
MR. CYRUS W. FIELD,

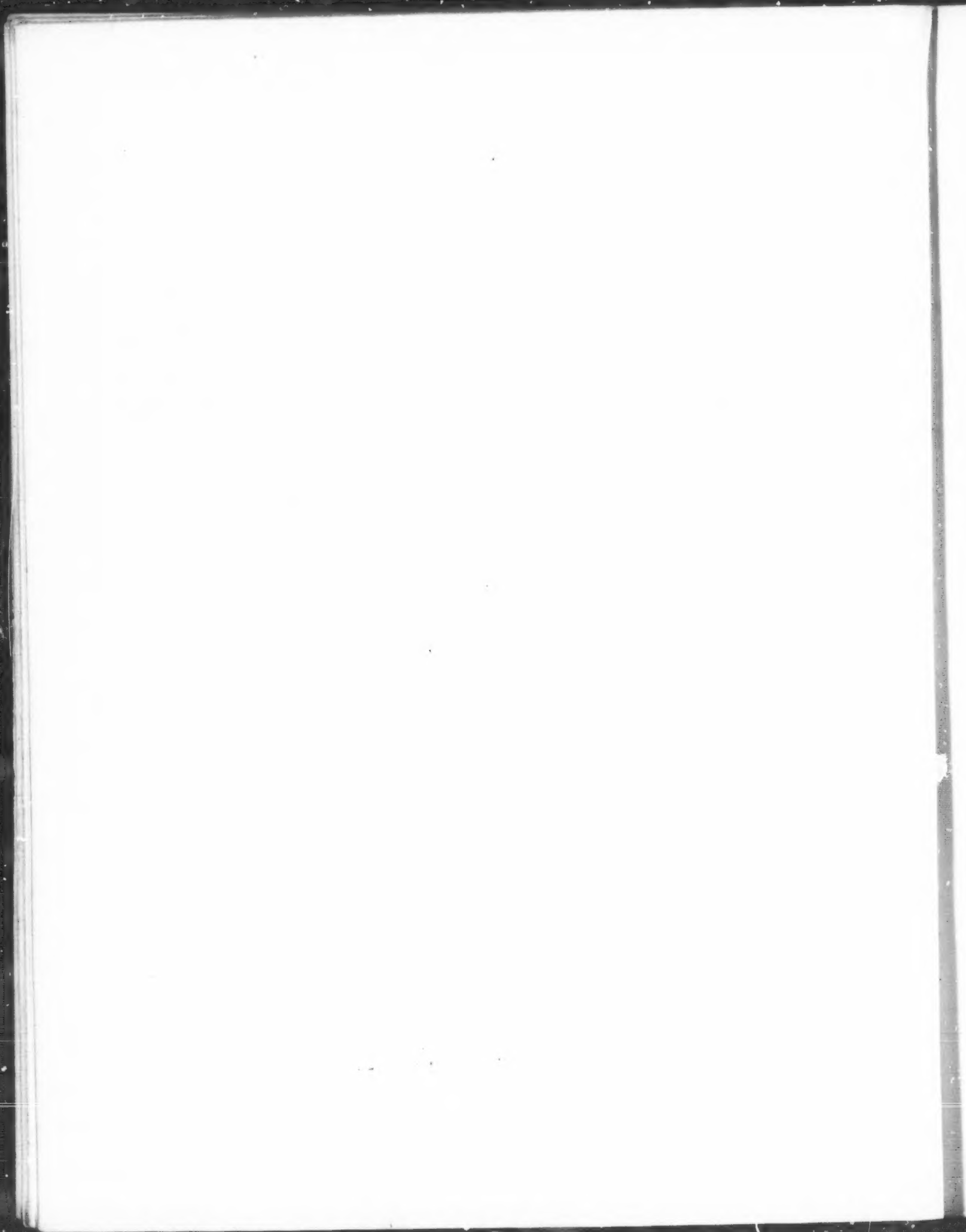
AT THE SAME HOTEL,

On *TUESDAY, the 10th MARCH, 1868,*

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A TELEGRAPH ACROSS THE ATLANTIC, ON THE 10TH OF MARCH, 1854.

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION.

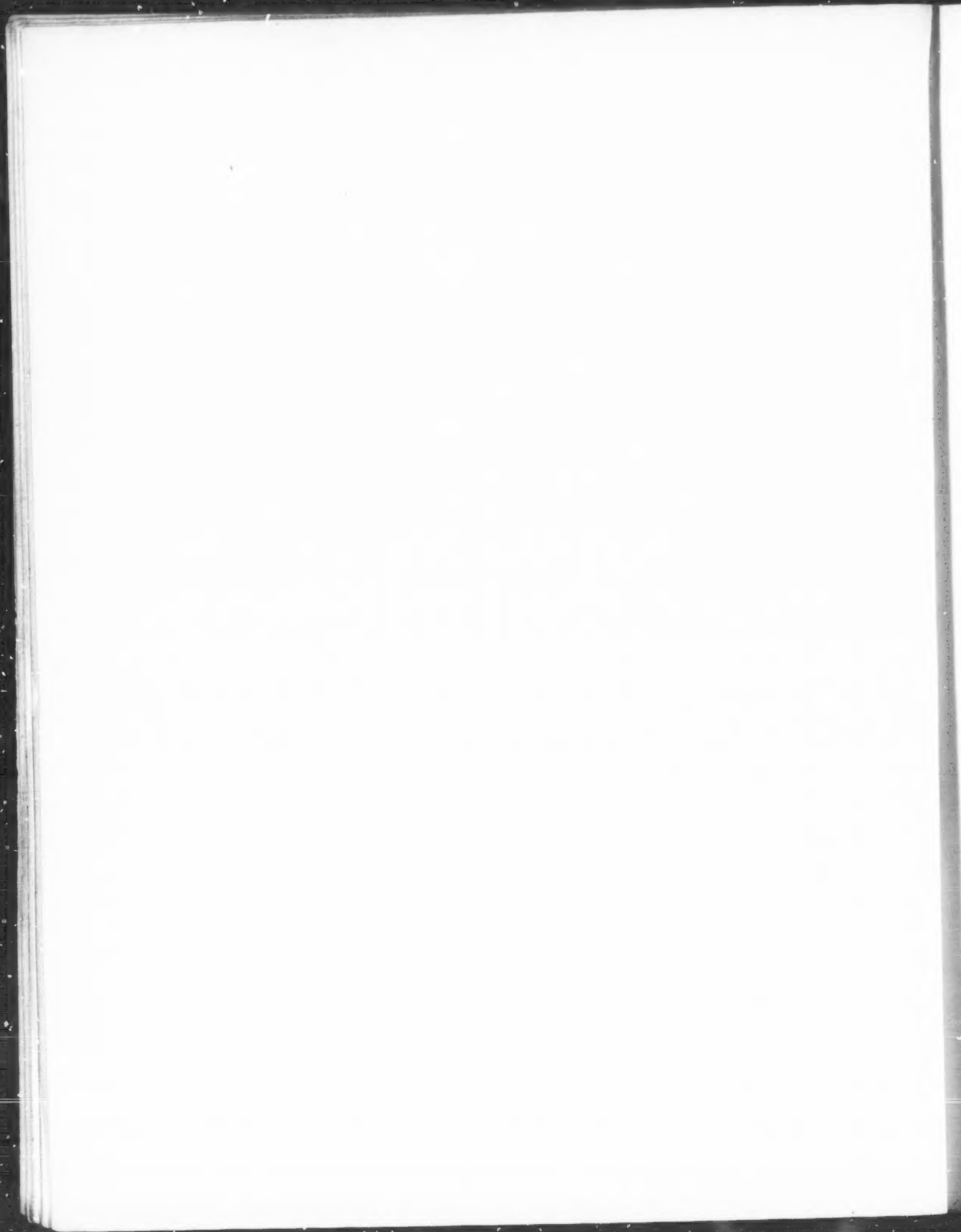




On the 15th of March, 1854, Mr. CYRUS W. FIELD and some of his Associates sailed from Boston for Newfoundland, to obtain the Charter of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company.

On the 15th of March, 1864, Mr. ADAMS, the American Minister, Mr. JOHN BRIGHT, M.P., and the principal gentlemen then in London who had been associated with Mr. FIELD in the Atlantic Telegraph Enterprise, dined with him at the Palace Hotel. The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the Atlantic Telegraph Company was held the next day, when the Chairman, The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORTLEY, thus referred to the gathering of the night before :—

"Without saying anything to detract from my deep source of gratitude to the other Directors, I cannot help especially alluding to Mr. Cyrus Field, who is present to-day, and who has crossed the Atlantic thirty-one times in the service of this Company, having celebrated at his table yesterday the anniversary of the tenth year of the day when he first left Boston in the service of the Company. (Hear, hear.) Collected round his table last night was a company of distinguished men—Members of Parliament, great capitalists, distinguished merchants and manufacturers, engineers and men of science—such as is rarely found together even in the highest house in this great metropolis. It was very agreeable to see an American citizen so surrounded. To me it was so, personally, as it would have been to you; and it was still more gratifying, inasmuch as we were there to celebrate the approaching accomplishment of the Atlantic Telegraph." (Loud cheers.)



EUROPE AND AMERICA.

Report of the Proceedings

AT AN

INAUGURATION BANQUET

GIVEN BY

MR. CYRUS W. FIELD,

OF NEW YORK,

At the Palace Hotel, Buckingham Gate, London,

On FRIDAY, the 15th APRIL, 1864.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE RENEWAL

BY THE

ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY

(AFTER A LAPSE OF SIX YEARS)

OF THEIR EFFORTS TO UNITE IRELAND & NEWFOUNDLAND.

BY MEANS OF

A SUBMARINE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH CABLE.

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY.

LONDON :

PRINTED BY JOSEPH CAUSTON AND SONS, 47, EASTCHEAP, E.C.4.
AND SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

INAUGURATION BANQUET

TO COMMEMORATE THE

RENEWAL OF THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH ENTERPRISE,

FRIDAY, APRIL 15th, 1864.

MR. CYRUS W. FIELD IN THE CHAIR.

The following Guests were present:—

The Hon. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, THE AMERICAN MINISTER.

Captain WM. C. ALDHAM, C.B., R.N.
GEORGE ASHBURNER, Esq.
WILLIAM BARBER, Esq.
HENRY FORD BARCLAY, Esq.
Captain A. B. BECHER, R.N.
GEORGE P. BIDDER, C.E., Esq.
SAMUEL P. BIDDER, Esq.
CHARLES S. P. POWLES, Esq.
THOMAS BRASSEY, Esq.
JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P.
CHARLES BURT, Esq.
ALEX. HENRY CAMPBELL, Esq.
SAMUEL CANNING, Esq.
JOHN CASSELL, Esq.
JOHN CHATTERTON, Esq.
LATIMER CLARK, Esq.
HENRY CLIFFORD, Esq.
EDWARD CROPPER, Esq.
FREDERICK M. EDGE, Esq.
CHARLES EDWARDS, Esq.
GEORGE ELLIOT, Esq.
RALPH ELLIOT, Esq.
WILLIAM EVANS, Esq.
Hon. WILLIAM M. EVARTS.
WILLIAM FAIRBAIRN, Esq., F.R.S.
JAMES NICOL FLEMING, Esq.
Sir CHARLES FOX.
Captain DOUGLAS GALTON, F.R.S.
RICHARD ATWOOD GLASS, Esq.
DANIEL GOOCH, Esq.

Hon. ROBERT GRIMSTON.
SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq., M.P.
Lord JOHN HAY.
Captain AUGUSTUS T. HAMILTON.
WM. T. HENLEY, Esq.
M. J. JONASSOHN, Esq.
C. M. LAMPSON, Esq.
WM. MACKINNON, Esq.
CHARLES MANBY, Esq., F.R.S.
J. S. MORGAN, Esq.
Hon. FREEMAN H. MORSE.
Captain C. T. A. NODDALL, R.N.
Captain SHERARD OSBORN, C.B., R.N.
Captain HENRY C. OTTER, R.N.
JOHN PENDER, Esq., M.P.
JAMES READMAN, Esq.
JULIUS REUTER, Esq., F.R.G.S.
W. G. ROMAINE, Esq., C.B.
PHILLIP ROSE, Esq.
GEORGE SAWARD, Esq.
WILLIAM F. SCHOLFIELD, Esq.
WILLIAM SHUTER, Esq.
JOHN SMITH, Esq.
HENRY STEVENS, Esq.
C. F. VARLEY, Esq.
RICHARD WARREN WESTON, Esq.
Prof. C. WHEATSTONE, F.R.S.
WILLIAM WHEELWRIGHT, Esq.
E. J. WILLIAMS, Esq.
Hon. JOHN YOUNG.



THE BANQUET.

The cloth having been removed, the several toasts of "*The Queen*," "*The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family*," and "*The President of the United States*," were proposed by the Chairman, and enthusiastically received "with all the honours."

Mr. CYRUS W. FIELD then said :—Gentlemen, we are honoured on this occasion by the presence of one to whom both England and America are greatly indebted for his continued, earnest, and sincere exertions during the last three years to maintain peace and good understanding between these two great kindred countries. (Hear, hear.) That gentleman descends from a line of statesmen. His grandfather was considered worthy to be the successor to the Presidential chair of George Washington; his father was the sixth President of the United States; and he himself is the honoured representative of my country in Great Britain. Without another word, I give you "The health of His Excellency Charles Francis Adams, the American Minister."

THE TOAST WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED.

His Excellency the AMERICAN MINISTER :—Mr. Cyrus Field, after the very kind notice you have been pleased to take of my humble labours, I suppose I must feel myself as being what is called "in for a few remarks." Since I have had the honour of holding the post I at present occupy, I have had the pleasure also of repeatedly seeing my friend on the left, who has come to visit us in pursuit of the great object of his life—the revival of a scheme which, if finally successful, will be among the most memorable events in the history of the world; in connection with which the name of our friend, I think, has about as good a chance of immortality as that of anybody I know at present living. (Cheers.) He has mentioned with approbation the slight efforts I may have made in the course of my mission here, towards keeping in harmony two nations of the same race, when there was a good deal of danger that they might differ; but, after all, I believe that the best and most permanent plan for uniting them is to establish this Atlantic Telegraph, for that and every other thing which tends to bring those two nations closer together will have the effect, I am sure, of increasing their knowledge of each other, and thereby perpetuating a good understanding between them. From the observations I have been enabled to make since I came to England, one thing has struck me with great force, and that is,

the existence of prejudices on both sides of the Atlantic, which require to be removed by a more familiar and personal intercourse between them. (Hear, hear.) I have seen statements made in the public prints here in regard to my countrymen, which I know the English people would never have believed if they had had any opportunity of knowing them by closer personal experience; while, again, on the other side of the Atlantic, there are newspapers which have made statements with regard to Great Britain, which would not have been believed if the American public had been reasonably well informed as to what the British people really are, and what are their true feelings. I do not wish to enter further into this matter, and I will, therefore, conclude with one remark personal to myself in connection with my friend's project. Although entirely friendly to his scheme, I must confess I am not very anxious it should be carried out *immediately*. It is a great object no doubt to bring the two countries together, but I cannot help arguing with myself that if, with the two countries three thousand miles apart, I get so many despatches per week that I can with difficulty attend to them all satisfactorily, what would be my fate if the Cable succeeds, and I had to receive and answer them every day? Therefore, I shall wish success to the Submarine Telegraph between Europe and America, but that it may happen with just about as little delay as may bring it to the moment when I hope to be back in my native country.

MR. FIELD:—It grieves me very much to differ from a gentleman so esteemed for his sound judgment as Mr. Adams; but I do so with the greatest respect, and in two particulars—Firstly, I submit that instead of saying "if" the Cable be a success, his expression should have been "*when*" it is a success, for of its success I doubt no more than of the reality of our existence here this evening; and, secondly, I submit that, as regards the daily despatches, Mr. Adams does not take his usually clear view of the deep interest he has in the immediate success of our Cable. When I have had occasion to call on him, at Upper Portland Place, I have been often informed that, by the tedious process of ordinary pen and ink, it frequently occupies him all day to compose and write the elaborate despatches incidental to that form of communication; but if we only had the telegraph in constant work between England and America, he would receive a short message instead of a long despatch, and would reply to it with equal brevity; and, in that case, instead of being hampered with business all day long, he would have plenty of time to bestow upon his numerous friends. Gentlemen, I next desire to give expression to the peculiar pleasure which I feel in meeting round this table so many gentlemen who have been of service to the Atlantic Telegraph Company and the great undertaking which it has in hand; and at this moment I desire especially to refer to those officers of the British Navy who were engaged in assisting, on the first and second occasion, in submerging the Atlantic Cable. There are here Captain Aldham, who rendered such aid in H.M.S. *Fidèle*, in 1858; Master Commander Noddall, who so ably commanded the *Albatross*, in 1857; Captain Oliver of H.M.S. *Porcupine*, for whom we were so

anxiously on the look out on the evening of the 4th of August, as we were entering Trinity Bay, and who so successfully steered our course to the head of that bay. It is with regret that I have to notice the absence from this table of Captains Wainwright, Preedy, and Dayman, who, unfortunately, are prevented from being present. We have derived great benefit from the cheerful, ready, and intelligent services of the officers of the Royal Navy, who have ever shown themselves most anxious and willing to do all in their power for this enterprise. When I saw the ships of both countries going out to lay the Cable it was with great pride I witnessed the generous rivalry between the officers of the two Navies. It was a rivalry to see which would do most towards the success of the work. I hope the same rivalry may always exist as to which may be the most earnest and successful in carrying the blessings of religion, of civilisation, and of commerce to every part of the world. I give you "The Army and Navy of Great Britain," and I couple with the toast the name of the senior officer present, Captain Aldham. (Cheers.)

Captain ALDHAM:—Gentlemen, I am an old tar: I have been forty years at sea: but during all that time I was never so much taken aback as upon this evening, when I am called upon to return thanks for the Service. I can only say, in the name of the Navy, that I return you our most sincere thanks, and I regret that we are not all here. As I never before in my life-time made a public speech, I would merely say that I was one of those who had the honour to be appointed by the Admiralty to superintend the laying of the Atlantic Cable, and with our friends we did our best. The Cable was laid, and it was, I think, a great success. I have two gold medals, given me respectively by the City and the Chamber of Commerce of New York, and I have been a good deal among the officers of the American Navy in the Gulf of Mexico; I have seen a good deal of them, and always found them willing to view every matter in a reasonable manner, and to act in concert with ourselves. I received the greatest attention from all ranks in the American Naval Service. In the name of the Navy I sincerely thank you.

Mr. FIELD:—Gentlemen, we are honoured to-night by the presence of a distinguished member of the British House of Commons who never rises to speak, whether in or out of the House, but his words are listened to with the profoundest attention, and whose speeches are eagerly read on the other side of the Atlantic—as eagerly as they are here by millions of people. I have tried hard to persuade him to visit the United States, but without any present success. If he would go there he would receive an ovation such as no other man living has ever received. There is, however, another side to this picture. There are a great many male children annually born in the United States, and were he to go there, instead of being John Smiths, and Thomas Browns, and Edward Joneses, there would be so many thousands of John Bright Smiths, John Bright Browns, and John Bright Joneses, as possibly to create inconvenience. (Laughter.) I really do not know what the effect would be, and I begin to think after all it would be very wrong for me to induce

him to go there, even if anything I might say could prevail on him to do so. I will only add, therefore, that if he will go he shall receive a hearty welcome from all those who know how actively he has striven to maintain friendly relations between the two countries. Gentlemen, I give you "Long life and happiness to Mr. John Bright." (Cheers.)

THE TOAST HAVING BEEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY HONOURED,

MR. BRIGHT said:—Gentlemen, I might very easily rob Mr. Field of the originality of the statement he has made, of what might happen were I to pay a visit to the United States. I have in the course of time received many letters from gentlemen in his country, and one of them said there were several penalties I should have to pay as the consequence of my visit to America, and one of them was, he thought, that nearly all the children born there in that year would be called after me. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) If this and a great many other dreadful things which he thought would follow my visit be true, I am, I think, very prudent in staying in this country. (Hear, hear.) I have never been in America; but for thirty years, which is a long time to look back to, I have had a strong wish to go there; but most of us Englishmen find so much to do in the conduct and management of our regular business, that a six months' absence is not a thing easy to accomplish. Englishmen are, I think, I will not say more attached, but certainly much more tied to their homes than Americans are. However, when Mr. Field is able to tell us that the war is over—(hear, hear)—that the Union is restored—(hear, hear)—that there are none but free men on his Continent—(hear, hear, and cheers)—if I could say I might be a few years younger than I am likely to be when that happens, I might, perhaps, be induced to promise to pay a visit to America. I do not know how many of those in this room are Englishmen, or how many are Americans, nor is it at all necessary to discriminate between them, but it is, I think, worthy of notice that we cannot tell one from the other. (Hear, hear.) That is not an unreasonable thing, seeing that Englishmen and Americans may say to each other—"Our ancestors were your ancestors." (Hear, hear.) But it is a very provoking thing, if this be so, that there are people who would make us foreigners and strangers to each other. (Loud cheers.) I am convinced that it would be possible to go through the United States, through every part of them, and through every part of England, and to select fifty or sixty men from the two countries, and to put them together as we are assembled to-night, and we should find them just as well disposed towards each other as we are, and just as able to enjoy together the good things provided for them. (Cheers.) There would not be among them the slightest disposition to quarrel one with another. (Hear, hear.) On the contrary, they would begin to think that all that has been said to create a hostile feeling between them is false, and then the lies and nightful calumnies which a great newspaper in this country—(hear, hear)—and another great newspaper in New York—(hear, hear)—treat both hemispheres to, would no longer be regarded. (Cheers.) There are some persons in England very jealous of America. They think it is too big to govern itself, to be under one Government. They the

subjects of a State which governs an empire of 150 millions of people of a different race, some thousands of miles away—they, I say, have a profound conviction, that thirty millions of people, of the same race, language, and religion, are really too large a population to be governed by themselves and to constitute one State. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) This national jealousy is very stupid, to say the least of it. (Loud cheers.) When the grandfather of the distinguished guest beside me was here in the same capacity which he now occupies, he was here in times of great animosity, in times of great disturbance of old feelings, and in times of great national irritation—(hear, hear)—for the American colonies had just then emancipated themselves. After the war of 1812 his father came here in the same capacity; and he, curiously enough, also came in for a portion of that kind of national irritation, the result of the war not having been very flattering either to the policy or the forces of England; and now our friend is here at a time when, although we are not at war, yet when civil war in his country is producing very unfortunate results here, especially in regard to one important branch of commerce, and is stirring up memories which had better been buried for ever. (Loud cheers.) From all this there comes—there comes, in the minds of some men, some partly ignorant, some suspicious, men of contracted intellect, totally ignorant of what makes the great and true glory of nations—a jealousy of the United States. (Hear, hear.) In ancient times it was considered the glory of nations to plant powerful colonies, and they did not glory the less in them because they became independent. (Cheers.) The United States have ceased to be our colonial possessions, and are now truly an independent nation, but still they are our colonies. (Cheers.) What, then, can be more contemptible, and more opposed to all that is great and glorious, and all we are taught in history to value, than that we should feel jealous of the great nation on the other side of the Atlantic, planted there by ourselves? (Cheers.) We have achieved whatever glory we are entitled to, it is said, because we have been able to carry everything good in this country to a higher point of excellence than any other country of which we are told in history ever did. (Hear, hear.) We have lately heard a great deal about the advantages of a universal language, and I know nothing more irritating and irremediable than the story we are told of what took place at the tower of Babel, from which men are supposed to speak in different tongues not mutually understood: but in the United States there are thirty millions of people of the same race as ourselves, professing the same religion, and speaking the same language; so that when peace is restored, the Union re-established, schools and classes enough open for the general instruction of the people, and freedom universally guaranteed, there will be a vast field opened for the development of commerce, civilisation, and Christianity, and the population will every ten years grow to a degree that, even in the lifetime of our children, the English language will be spoken by 100 millions of free people on the American Continent. (Hear, and cheers.) What a magnificent contemplation that is! (Renewed cheers.) If I chance to go further, to the Australian colonies, which under the blessing of free institutions are becoming great and populous, I find that there the

English language is spoken, as it is spoken in the United States ; and again, if I come to our vast dependencies in India, inhabited by 150 millions of people, among whom the English language is daily extending its influence, I find that by means of the growth of schools and a good educational system, we shall have the educated people of Hindostan, fifty years hence, should the connection continue so long, speaking the English language. (Cheers.) Finally, I come to South Africa ; and there the English language is making its way also among extensive colonies and various tribes ; so that we see that this language of ours, in which some of the greatest men who ever lived have written and spoken, is universally extending itself by the aid of commerce and civilisation, until it promises to belt the world. (Cheers.) I want, then, to know why there should be any persons inclined to excite jealous passions and a hostile mind between two nations speaking this language. (Cheers.) I cannot conceive any man more an enemy, not only to his country and the cause of freedom, but also to humanity itself, than he who lends himself to create and foster jealousy and animosity between the United States and this more ancient English nation. (Cheers.) I thoroughly agree with what Mr. Adams has said, with regard to the political importance of that great undertaking, in the cause of which we are this evening assembled ; and just before I came here I was speaking to a gentleman, a member of her Majesty's Government—one of the present Cabinet—and I told him, as I was coming out of the House, that I was going to dine with some friends of the Atlantic Telegraph. His countenance at once brightened up, and he said to me, " I look upon that as the most glorious thing that man ever attempted ; there is nothing else which so excites my sympathies." (Cheers.) When he said that, he spoke only the feelings of every intelligent and moral man in the whole world. (Loud cheers.) When the news reached us that the last Cable was laid, did it not come to us as a revolution and a shock ? Did not every man feel that a new world and a new time were opened to him ? It was, I recollect, just at the time when a great work was being celebrated at Cherbourg, under the auspices of the French Emperor, but it sank into insignificance compared with such glorious news, and everybody felt, in some degree, as everybody must have felt nearly 400 years ago, when the simple adventurous sailor of Genoa had opened a new world to the knowledge of mankind. But he only discovered to Europe what I may be permitted to call an unoccupied wilderness ; but this project is one to unite 30 millions of people to the 250 millions who inhabit this Continent of Europe ; and passing from the days of Columbus, I know of no event in history comparable in grandeur and sublimity (if we look at its results) to that magnificent enterprise to which Mr. Field has devoted his labours and his life. (Cheers.) I thank you for your kindness in listening to me so far, and I hope, that some short time after this great event shall be accomplished, we may have the satisfaction of seeing Mr. Field amongst us again, to congratulate him on the result to which we all look forward with so hopeful and so intense an interest. (Loud cheers.)

The hon. gentleman then resumed his seat.

MR. FIELD:—Gentlemen, more than sixty years ago there was in college with my father the father of a gentleman now present. In these troublesome times that gentleman has left his home, and his country, and his employments in the legal profession, to do what he can to keep up and restore kindly feelings between the two nations. Of him it may be fairly said, "Blessed are the peace makers." I am now going to propose to you a sentiment, and I shall mention his name with it. It is "Success to the Atlantic Telegraph, and may it be as enduring as the cliffs of Old, and the granite of New England," and I couple with that the name of the Hon. Wm. M. Evarts, of New York.

THE TOAST WAS FULLY HONOURED.

THE HON. WM. M. EVARTS said:—Gentlemen, I very well remember, I cannot say how many years ago it is, that on a certain bright summer morning, in a quiet New England town, I left my home in a carriage with a number of guests for a drive over the hills. At a break in the line of hills the distant village was presented to our view, and our ears at the same moment were struck with the sound of bells. We were surprised, and for a moment feared that it was a signal of disaster, for the *fire bell* is the only peal which disturbs the serenity of a New England village. But after a little time we reasoned with ourselves that within the hour they must have received the great news of the laying of the Atlantic Cable. Hence, indeed, that spontaneous outburst of the people's joy. From every belfry of New England there rang forth peals in commemoration of the new message of peace and good-will to man. (Hear, hear.) Unfortunately this great guarantee of peace and good will was interrupted by the sad misfortune of the break of continuity, and you now propose, under surer protections, the restoration of this connection between the two worlds. Mr. Bright, by his allusion to Columbus, suggests to me a comparison, which may not seem inapt, between that illustrious navigator and our friend Mr. Field. But a few weeks ago, in the native town of the great Genoese, I read at the foot of a noble statue in his honour, in all the brevity of classical inscription, these words.—"There was one world: *he* said 'Let there be two,' and there were two." (Hear, hear.) Let us now, then, say of the Atlantic Cable and its author; "There were two worlds, *he* said 'Let them be one again,' and they were one." (Great cheering.) I was asked, in an intelligent company, on my first visit to England, a year ago, what it was that struck me most, as a stranger, in the people of England? Unprepared for the question, I answered, with entire candour, it was this: "That there was so little difference between the people of the two countries, that they seemed so like each other, that it was difficult to control the feeling that they were of *one* country." Give us in common, race, language, religion, free government, education, and independence, and those who wish may count the differences between us on the fingers of one hand. (Cheers.) Why is it that so much is attempted and desired, and so much is accomplished in the way of estrangement between our nations, when no man on either side of the Atlantic can compare for a moment the

ties and those relations which bind us to each other with those which either of us can establish with any other nation on the face of the earth? Why is it that we chiefly rejoice in the laying of the Atlantic Cable? Is it not because it is to be the great instrument in the removal of misunderstandings and prejudices between these great nations? They will cease to be dangerous when they can be immediately met and explained, for the danger lies in the delay and in the continued ignorance of those who create or entertain them. Again, we have a guaranty of truth in the necessary brevity of telegraphy, for superfluous falsehood is expensive. Next, we have the essential condition that whatever message or intelligence is transmitted is made public in the same sense, in the same words, and in the same breath all over each country, and cannot be made to assume the various forms which the letter writers of particular newspapers may, from interest or under dictation, put upon it. Another condition is, that if a mistake should occur, we cannot long be deceived; nor does the false impression which it creates become inveterate, and produce mischiefs which become irremediable before there is a possibility of explanation. For, once let false information come to operate on the minds of those who have received and given credence to it, they become indifferent to its correction; they commit themselves to the fact as they first heard it, they shape their own reasonings, and commit themselves to others upon it, and become, at last, advocates against truth. But in this rapid and continuous communication from day to day you have the source of all this danger removed. It is greatly to be lamented that the two countries, without being engaged in any open hostilities between themselves, without having any occasion for passion or quarrel, one towards the other, should have been so much estranged in feeling, and should, on both sides of the water, be so prone to give grounds of solicitude and alarm to one another. Let us hope and believe that for the future there will be more reflection on this side of the Atlantic, and more consideration on the other; and if you have perceived that we have faults, and, on the other hand, faults also we may have found in you, let us mutually pardon them, as natural traits of the family of which we are both members. Let us, I say, adopt this idea, and keep it ever before us. If the daughter has these inherited failings, let not the mother complain, even although, in the descent, they may have become exaggerated. Truth is the great interest of nations. The press and the telegraph are both useful servants only so long as they are the servants of truth. (Cheers.) So long as they so minister to us they shall have a title to, and shall receive, our praise; but when they cease to be messengers of truth they become the just objects of our hatred and contempt. Let me, then, in proposing "The success of the Atlantic Telegraph," add this sentiment, "May truth preside at either magnet, and may falsehood be for ever buried in the intermediate ocean." (Cheers.)

Mr. FIELD: --When I visited Great Britain in 1856, the first gentleman connected with the English Government who took me by the hand, and said an encouraging word to me, was the Earl of Clarendon. When I had the honour of an interview with him at that

time he requested me to put in writing the substance of my scheme, which he promised he would bring before the attention of the Cabinet. I complied with that request, and the result was the agreement that when the Cable was in working order we should have a subsidy from the British Government of £14,000 per annum for 25 years. I have a note from Lord Clarendon regretting that he is not able to be here this evening. He is away on an important mission to Paris, but we are honoured by the presence of his brother-in-law, who is the chairman of the largest Telegraph Company in this country, and in asking you to drink the health of the Earl of Clarendon I shall couple with it the name of the Hon. Robert Grimston. (Cheers.)

The Hon. ROBERT GRIMSTON :—Gentlemen, I feel it at all times to be very difficult to answer for my own short-comings ; and, as I belong to a very large family, it would be rather hard that I should have to answer for all my relations. (Laughter.) However, I am proud of my relative Lord Clarendon. He is a gentleman and a man of the world. (Hear, hear.) He has his duties to perform, and I am sure he will ably perform them in whatever station he may be placed. (Cheers.) The gentlemen who have already spoken have dwelt so ably on the political part of the question that I will not enter into it, but will confine myself to the commercial part of it. Mr. Bidder and his friends have, I think, made one great mistake ; I hope he will excuse me telling him so. I am surprised that he has not fought against popular ignorance, but rather encouraged it. He will well recollect the story of Mr. George Stephenson being instructed by counsel to keep back the fact that it was possible for a railway train to travel at a greater speed than twelve miles an hour. (Hear, hear.) He must, I think, have been acting upon the same principle when he put before the public that Government guaranteed the shareholders a return of eight per cent. so long as the Cable remains in good working order. Now, with all due deference to his opinion, I would say to Government—"Thank you for nothing." If the Company fail to lay the Cable Mr. Gladstone will not have to pay them anything ; and again, if the Company succeed he will not have to pay them anything ; because, with the Cable in good working order, instead of its paying eight per cent. it is more likely to pay eighteen per cent., and I think I might say eighty per cent. ; so that our Government seemed to be playing the game played by little boys in the street, "Heads, I win ; tails, I don't lose." (Laughter.)

Mr. FIELD :—I regret exceedingly that the Chairman of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, the Right Hon. James Stuart Wortley, is not here present this evening, but he has been summoned to Florence, in connection with the illness of a near relative. Mr. Lampson, our much respected Deputy-Chairman, and Mr. Samuel Gurney, another director, have left the room. I am, however, happy to say that other members of the Board are present. We have here Mr. Pender, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Bidder, and Captain Hamilton ; I give you, then, "The health of the Directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company." (Hear, hear.) But, before you drink that toast, I should state to this meeting

that one of the first resolutions passed by the shareholders on the 9th of December, 1856, was, that they (the Directors) should not receive remuneration of any kind until the Company had paid a dividend of at least ten per cent. per annum; and from that day to this moment they have been constantly meeting at the offices of the Company, sometimes daily, sometimes three times a week, and yet not one of them has ever received a single farthing for any services rendered to the Company. (Cheers.)

MR. CROPPER replied to the toast and said:—Gentlemen, I am for my own part, and on the part of my colleagues, deeply indebted to you for the honour you have done us. From the very first I felt the greatest interest in the success of the enterprise; not only on account of its commercial value, but because I agree with Mr. Adams that, by uniting the two nations more strongly and more intimately together, it will afford the means of an easy and satisfactory solution of any misunderstanding which may arise between their respective Governments. Therefore, Sir (addressing Mr. Field), and on other grounds, we should feel grateful to you for the great interest you have always shown in the success of the Atlantic Cable.

SEVERAL GENTLEMEN HAVING CALLED ON MR. BIDDER,

MR. BIDDER said:—Gentlemen, I do not know why I should be called upon to supplement the remarks of my friend and colleague. I am a very young member of the Board. I came upon it to represent the interests of a more ancient society, and I am bound to say I entirely agree with the remarks of my chief with respect to the value of the Government guarantee. He will recollect, I think, that from the very first I protested against it as something unworthy the character of the scheme. (Hear, hear.) It is a guarantee not worth the paper it is written upon. As regards the laying of the Cable, it will either be successful or unsuccessful. (Hear, hear.) My firm belief is that it will be successful. (Cheers.) I have had abundant opportunities of making myself acquainted with the conditions under which it can be successfully laid, and with the late Robert Stephenson, in the very early days of the Atlantic Telegraph Company. I carefully discussed those conditions, and we both came to the clear conclusion that the first attempt would be a failure. I was at Cherbourg when we were astounded with the intelligence that the Cable had been laid, and we were delighted when we heard that the continuity was complete. A few days afterwards, however, when we ascertained that the continuity was broken, our delight subsided, but we were not at all surprised. I will not go into our reasons for coming to that opinion. Some of them were of a personal character, very painful to recall, but all those reasons have now been put an end to, and I feel sure, as I am addressing you, that the Atlantic Cable, under the conditions on which it is to be now laid, will be a great and a triumphant success. (Cheers.) On this, I give you the fullest amount of assurance. Why, then, should we encumber ourselves with a Government guarantee? I object to it entirely. I know that

the Atlantic Cable will be now laid under such conditions of science as will enable us to facilitate the transmission of messages to a degree that exceeds all power of description. The importance of this to commercial men will be admitted by all ; and I think it will also be universally admitted that those who have gone to all the expense, and incurred all the responsibility connected with the enterprise, are entitled to the fullest return they can command. (Cheers.)

MR. FIELD:—Gentlemen, I dare say you would feel disappointed if the Atlantic enterprise did not put something into your pockets, when laid, by the facility given to business ; and therefore I do hope that when the Cable is laid neither you nor the public will curtail the company's profits by abbreviating their messages. When I arrived in this country, in January last, the Atlantic Telegraph Company trembled in the balance. We were in want of funds and were in negotiations with the Government, and making great exertions to raise the money. At this juncture I was introduced to a gentleman of great integrity and enterprise, who is well known, not only for his wealth but for his foresight, and in attempting to enlist him in our cause he put me through such a cross-examination as I had never before experienced. I thought I was in the witness-box. He enquired of me the practicability of the scheme—what it would pay, and everything else connected with it ; but before I left him I had the pleasure of hearing him say that it was a great national enterprise that ought to be carried out ; and, he added, I will be one of ten to find the money required for it. From that day to this he has never hesitated about it, and when I mention his name you will know him as a man whose word is as good as his bond, and as for his bond, there is no better in England. I give you “The health of Thomas Brassey.” (Cheers.)

MR. BRASSEY:—Sir, I feel very much embarrassed by the kind remarks you have made with respect to me. I may say I know very little of telegraphy—not more than gentlemen ordinarily do ; but it occurred to me, only twenty-four hours before I was introduced to Mr. Field, that something ought to be done to renew the communication between the two Continents. I then met him and one or two other gentlemen with the purpose of reviving this business, and to see if we could make a combination to carry out the result in view, and I then felt so convinced of the practicability of carrying out the enterprise to a successful issue that I did not hesitate to put myself down for one tenth of the expense. (Cheers.) I felt, and I still feel that I undertake a task and an engagement which will be beneficial to myself individually, and especially beneficial to the whole of the human race. (Cheers.) The more I hear the more I am convinced that I am not deceived in believing that the matter will be carried out. At all events the risk is not more than one-tenth the expense ; so that, looking at the magnificent results of the first experiment, and the small chance there now is of failure, no one could, I think, hesitate, taking it purely as a commercial question, to put money in the enterprise : but above that—far above that—we

look forward to great international advantages—great benefits to the human family—to follow an enterprise which exceeds all precedent.

MR. FIELD:—The words spoken by Mr. Brassey in the latter part of January, "Let the Electric Telegraph be laid between England and America," encouraged us all, and made us believe we should succeed in raising the necessary capital, and I then went to work to find nine other Thomas Brasseys (I did not know whether he was an Englishman, a Scotchman, or an Irishman, but I made up my mind that he combines all the good qualities of every one of them), and after considerable search I met with a rich friend from Manchester, and I asked him if he would second Mr. Brassey, and walked with him from 28, Pall Mall, to the House of Commons, of which he is a member. Before we reached the House he expressed his willingness to do so to an equal amount. A few days after that it was thought there would be a great advantage arising out of the fusion of the Gutta Percha Company and Messrs. Glass, Elliot, & Co., into a public company, who would in that form be able, with advantage to themselves, to help forward the Atlantic Telegraph. Mr. Pender then entered into it heart and soul, and we have now a list of eminent capitalists in the United Kingdom pledged to carry out that enterprise in the very best manner. I therefore feel we are deeply indebted to Mr. Brassey and Mr. Pender, for the energetic way in which this matter has been taken up by them, and I am truly glad to see the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company established with the object and the power of carrying forward the extension of telegraphic communication in all parts of the world. I give you, then, as a toast, "The prosperity of that Company, and the health of Mr. Pender, its able and energetic Chairman." (Cheers.)

MR. PENDER in reply said:—If anything could enhance the compliment that had been paid to him, or increase his gratification at receiving it, it would be the circumstance of its being originated by one so well qualified as Mr. Field to appreciate the full extent of the great work in which they had now embarked; no living man knew better than Mr. Field the years of toil and anxiety it had taken to bring this great international undertaking to its present stage, and no man could estimate better than he the advantages which the combination now formed would confer, not alone upon this country and America, but upon every nation in the world whom it is desirable to bring into intimate and friendly alliance. The importance of the present project was not to be measured by the mere standard of capital or prospect of commercial gain, great as each of these is, but by the fact which must be borne in mind that, when carried to their legitimate bounds, the scope and objects of the new organization were calculated to bring the whole of the civilised world within their influence. The prospect of being usefully instrumental in achieving so great a result was in itself the highest reward to which he (Mr. Pender) could aspire, and his ambition to attain this would be the most powerful stimulant to exertion. With such men as were associated with him on the Board of this Company, he had no fear of the result. In little

more than fourteen days the Company had been formed, and three times the amount of the capital required had been subscribed. I therefore feel the responsibility of my position, but am encouraged by the importance of the work to be done, and hope to merit by future exertions the compliment which Mr. Field has, by anticipation, conferred upon me.

Mr. BIDDER (addressing Mr. Field):—I have been requested, Sir, to undertake a duty which I will endeavour to fulfil to the best of my ability, and that is, Sir, to propose your health. (Loud cheers.) Encouraged by the manner in which the company has received the simple announcement of my intention, I see that it requires very little eloquence to secure for that toast the reception which it so well merits. I recollect well, Sir, when you came to this country on the first occasion in 1854. I know the zeal which you brought to bear in support of the statements which you made, all which went to show the faith which you had in the enterprise. I know, too, the high opinion which the late Mr. Robert Stephenson entertained of your zeal and talents, and a careful consideration of the whole enterprise satisfies me that the opinion which you have formed of it will be ratified by its results. I have lately been brought much into contact with you, and there is one fixed opinion which I have formed of your character, and it is this, that when you make up your mind to effect a great object you will never abandon it. (Cheers.) If life and health be spared to you, you will live to see the Atlantic Cable successfully laid; and it is, I assure you, the wish of all here that you may live to realise the glory of the enterprise. (Cheers.)

THE TOAST WAS MOST ENTHUSIASTICALLY HONOURED.

Mr. FIELD:—Gentlemen, words cannot express to you my feelings on this occasion. One month ago to-night, on the evening of the 15th March, some gentlemen, who are now present, honoured me with their company at dinner in this house, and it is an extraordinary coincidence that that evening was the tenth anniversary of the day on which I sailed from Boston for Newfoundland, for the purpose of attempting to obtain the charter of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, upon the privileges and exclusive rights of which the Atlantic Telegraph Company was founded and exists; and that to-night is the tenth anniversary of that evening of the 15th April on which the Governor of Newfoundland affixed his signature to the charter conceding to this Company, for fifty years, the exclusive right to land cables on the coast of Labrador, Newfoundland, and the adjacent islands. That privilege has been much criticised. It has been called an odious monopoly. Now I speak in the hearing of the great advocate of free trade and the opponent of all monopoly, and contend that the Atlantic Telegraph is entitled to the enjoyment of a monopoly, limited as this has been, to a moderate term of continuance. I can say, as many of you know, that it was only by very hard work years ago that we succeeded, even with the aid of that monopoly, in raising the funds necessary for the laying of the Cable in 1858, and it is only within the last few days that the necessary funds have

been secured with which to lay its successor in 1865; and I ask you, as men of business, if we could have got a single farthing for that purpose if we had not had the monopoly of which I speak? Would any one, do you suppose, invest his capital in such an enterprise if, the moment it was successfully completed, any one else was to be at liberty to come in and reap the benefit of it. (Hear, hear.) There are some things in which a monopoly is absolutely necessary, and the Atlantic Cable is one of them, for much is due to those who originate and bear all the expense of such an undertaking. If it had not been for the monopoly, do you think that the Company would have sustained its existence during the five years it has been in abeyance, and do you suppose we could ever again have placed it in the proud position in which we find it this day? It is absolutely necessary that a man should have a monopoly in his own domestic circle. (Laughter.) Then we have patent rights, copy-rights, the post-office, and I might go on enumerating a great many other things in which a monopoly is right and proper. My stay in England is now drawing to a close, and never before, when about to embark for America, did I feel more satisfied and rejoiced at the position of our great undertaking; but, with all this, a feeling of sadness at times steals over me. It seems to me in those moments very doubtful whether many of us will ever meet again. What little I could do has been done, and the enterprise is now in the hands of the contractors, who, I am sure, will carry it out to a triumphant success. It will do much to bind together England and America; and base, indeed, will be that man, to whatever country he may belong, that may dare, with an unhallowed tongue or venomous pen, to sow discord among those who speak the same language and profess the same religion, and who ought to be on terms of the completest friendship. (Cheers.) I shall leave in a few days for my native land, for I think it wrong on the part of any American to be away in the hour of peril to his country; unless it be on a mission of peace, his place is at home at such a moment. I will say, however, that if any one here present should come to see us in America, he will receive a hearty welcome from me, at all events. Gentlemen, I thank you very much for the manner in which you have responded to the toast of my health. Before I sit down I wish to say that those of you who last honoured me with your company at dinner in this house will recollect that on that occasion I proposed the health of Mr. George Peabody and his worthy partner, Mr. Morgan, and the latter replied to the sentiment. I had stated, in the course of my remarks preliminary to the toast, that when I called upon him in 1856, he gave the name of his house as subscribers for £10,000 of the Company's stock. In reply to the toast, Mr. Morgan spoke of that £10,000 as lost money, but promised a further subscription, nevertheless, towards carrying out a new Cable, and I am happy to say that yesterday he redeemed his promise. (Cheers.) That statement that he lost his money is not strictly accurate. It is not lost. He knows where the Cable is and can go and get it. The money has been sown, and the plant is already out of the ground, and is now growing up splendidly. It will soon be in flower—I mean at a premium; and then there will be, in the office of Messrs. George Peabody and Company, more rejoicing over that £10,000 which was lost and is found

than over any £99,000 of their profits that were never in danger. When I invited Mr. Morgan here this evening, he consented to come upon the express condition that he should not have to reply to any toast or make a speech. I will, therefore, give you a sentiment which, remember, he is on no account to reply to, but I hope you have all by this time drank enough of wine to enable you to imagine what he would say in reply to it (laughter)—if he were under any obligation to respond. I ask you, then, to drink "Success to the house of Messrs. George Peabody and Company."

MR. MORGAN :—There are many things to be said in regard to what Mr. Field has just stated, but I now simply rise to return you thanks in the name of Mr. Peabody.

MR. FIELD :—In 1858 a committee of eminent engineers, consisting of Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Penn, and Mr. Joshua Field, was appointed to report on the condition of the machinery, to be employed in laying the Cable; and in 1859, when it came to be thought important to establish general telegraph communication, eight gentlemen were selected as a committee to investigate the whole subject. Most of the members of that committee are, I am rejoiced to say, here this evening. For eighteen months they pursued their inquiry, thoroughly investigated the science of submarine telegraphy, and presented a most able report on the subject. On the revival of this enterprise in 1863, we solicited the co-operation of five gentlemen to act for us as a consulting scientific committee, namely, Captain Galton, of the Royal Engineers, Mr. William Fairbairn, Professor Wheatstone, Mr. Joseph Whitworth, and Professor William Thomson—all men of the highest mark in science. I shall now ask you, then, to drink the health of the gentlemen composing these committees. (Cheers.)

Captain GALTON :—In returning you thanks for the honour which you have done us, I may say that we all have been very happy to add to the information which has enabled you to start again on what I may call your second career. In 1859 I was, in consequence of the failure of the Red Sea Telegraph, commissioned to inquire into the circumstances of it. I then suggested to her Majesty's Government that the subject of the Atlantic Cable ought to be associated with the commission. On that commission, as originally constituted, there were four gentlemen appointed by Government, and four others were subsequently appointed to represent the Atlantic Telegraph Company. I believe the report we made, the evidence we received, and the experiments which we carried out have been of great value in forwarding the cause of ocean telegraphy. I entirely agree with Mr. Bidder in thinking that Government guarantees are of very little practical value. The Red Sea Telegraph was under a Government guarantee, but it was so worthless that although Government was obliged to pay a large sum in perpetuity on the capital invested, yet they had no control over the working of the line. In all subsequent guarantees Parliament said that the subsidy should not be paid unless the Cable was in good working

order; but no submarine telegraph in good working order would pay less than the guarantee: therefore, the guarantee I hold to be of little importance. The members of the committee have endeavoured to suggest such a form of Cable as may secure success, and therefore I attach little importance to the guarantee, as the enterprise is sure to pay more than the 8 per cent. guaranteed.

Mr. FIELD:—I have here a letter from a lady. I shall not state the name of her husband, who is present, but the letter contains a postscript, and that is always the most important part of a lady's correspondence. That postscript says, "I hope he (that is to say her husband) will not be detained *later* than 4 A.M. of the 16th." I mean to test the lady's sincerity, and in order that I may have the pleasure of your company somewhat later, I intend proposing to you another toast. In 1854 I became acquainted with the firm of Messrs. Glass, Elliot, & Co., and I can say most sincerely that more honourable, straightforward, business men I have not met on either side of the Atlantic. They have carried out with great success the laying of many submarine cables, and I am confident they will also carry out this enterprise successfully. I have, therefore, great pleasure in proposing to you their health. (Cheers.)

Mr. GLASS:—It is extremely gratifying to us to have our names associated with a great undertaking like this. It has been our good fortune to work harmoniously with you for some years past, and it is very satisfactory to us to think that we have been instrumental in connecting Cape Breton with Newfoundland, which is the means of considerably expediting messages between America and this country. That line completed the telegraph to Cape Race, and was laid so far back as 1856. The project of the first Atlantic Telegraph is due entirely to yourself. There were, however, circumstances connected with it which unfortunately led to its failure. But I may say that since that time it has been our lot to lay several thousands of miles of cable which are now in good working order, as I trust will be the case with the Cable which is now to be laid across the Atlantic by the new Company; for, Sir, as you are aware, we are now embarked on a new enterprise, and we enter upon this contract under auspices which must tend to secure the success of an undertaking of such magnitude. I need not, I think, say we are proud of the position which we occupy. We have already done a great deal, and I think that we will not lose a fathom of the Cable we are now about to lay; and we feel proud to be connected with Mr. Brassey, Mr. Pender, and others who have joined us, feeling that the enterprise required something more than we individually could supply. I should wish to draw your attention to the permanent character of the cable laid by us between Newfoundland and Cape Breton. It has been for eight years in operation, and has never yet cost a single shilling for repairs. I have no doubt the Atlantic Cable will be equally a success. Its capital, and the scientific spirit in which it is promoted, are good vouchers for the successful construction of the Cable; and as regards our prospects of success in submerging it, considering that we are

to have the use of the *Great Eastern* steam ship for that purpose, I can really see nothing which can possibly interfere with the execution of the work unless it be the action of the elements, and even of that I think there is very little fear.

MR. CHARLES EDWARDS:—I cannot sit down without expressing my sense of the honour which the company has done us. I wish also to state that it is our sincere belief that although we are now associated with a Great Joint Stock Company our amalgamation with the Gutta Percha Company would not have been successfully accomplished but for one individual man. I have been long associated with him; and I can assure the shareholders of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company that every shilling they have brought into the concern will be successful in the same ratio as the amount of capital employed by Glass, Elliot, & Co. has been, a success which has been entirely owing to the attention and energy of Mr. Glass. I propose to you, then, "The health of Mr. Glass." (Cheers.)

MR. GLASS:—I find that I have, through the kindness of my partner, to address you oftener than I at all bargained for. It is true that I have chiefly exerted myself in the practical part of our business, and I have done all you could desire of me. For the future, those exertions will not be remitted, for I hope that the result of the combination we have just formed will be to add laurels to ourselves and to add lustre to the Company.

MR. FIELD:—Gentlemen, as one of the most important causes of the success of submarine cables has been the perfect insulation of the core by the Gutta Percha Company, I give you the health of Messrs. Barclay, Chatterton, and Smithies, of that Company. (Cheers.)

MR. CHATTERTON:—Gentlemen, the letter to which our worthy host has alluded, has not, I can tell you, come from my wife. (Laughter.) This notice of us is, I feel, an extremely great honour. So far as the submarine telegraph goes, I think it is only just coming into full existence. Up to the present time we have been merely tuning our instruments, but the time is now come, when all is in order, and we shall have an excellent concern, if we only all act together in harmony. We are reasonably sure of success. The arrangements for the work are in a most efficient state, and any merit the Gutta Percha Works may have earned by their past management shall not be diminished so long as I may have anything to do with them.

MR. FIELD:—Allusion has been already made to the *Great Eastern*. The Great Eastern Steam Ship Company have acted in the most liberal manner towards us, inasmuch as at present they are truly engaged in a labour of love. From this day to the 31st of December, 1865, we are to have the use of that magnificent vessel; and, if the Cable be not successfully laid, we shall not have to pay a single shilling for the use of her. Should it be successful, we are then to hand to the Directors of the Great Eastern Steam Ship Company £50,000 in shares. In all my business experience I have never known any

offer more honourable, and I am now going to propose to you the health of the Directors of that Company, three of whom are present, namely, Mr. Gooch, Mr. Barber, and Mr. Brassey. (Cheers.)

Mr. GOOCH :—As one of the Directors of the Great Eastern Steam Ship Company, I am exceedingly delighted to see her take part in such a great scheme which, I feel sure, will be perfectly successful. We are, as you have been told, to receive £50,000 in shares when the vessel has successfully laid the Cable. I believe she is the only vessel afloat that could successfully lay it, and they seem to me to have been made for each other.

Mr. FIELD :—There is another toast which I intend to propose to you in connection with the Atlantic enterprise of 1857 and 1858, and I regret that Mr. Woodhouse is prevented by illness from being amongst us. Mr. Everett is in America. Sir Charles Bright has not yet returned from the Persian Gulf, and Mr. Canning and Mr. Clifford have left the room, so that there is no person here to respond to the toast :—"To the engineers that laid the Cable in 1858." I can, however, without any such drawback, give you "The health of Mr. Saward, the Secretary of the Company," who has served us faithfully and well during a period of more than seven years, having started with us at the first establishment of the Company, and zealously held on with us through all the troubles and anxieties which have attended the progress of its career. (Cheers.)

Mr. SAWARD :—After what you have heard from so many eminent individuals who have this evening addressed you, it will be quite unnecessary for me, at this late hour, to delay your time further than to enable me to thank you for the honour you have done me in drinking my health.

Mr. PENDER :—We should not, I think, forget our absent friends, the Directors of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, and of the Atlantic Telegraph Company in America, and may they be as much rejoiced as yourself with the good news which you are carrying out to them. I give you, then, "The Directors in America of the New York, Newfoundland, and London and Atlantic Telegraph Companies." (Cheers.)

Mr. FIELD :—As I am the only American Director of the New York, Newfoundland, and London, and Atlantic Telegraph Companies here, I thank you for the kind manner with which you have received that toast. I have been from the commencement a Director of both Companies. I have, however, while a member of the Board of the Newfoundland Company, often felt myself placed in a very delicate position, a position which I did not by any means covet : for, having been entrusted by my colleagues with full power to treat with the Atlantic Company, in which I have so large an interest, I felt that I was at one and the same time both buyer and seller : but it is satisfactory to me to know

that on each occasion of my return home all my arrangements with the Atlantic Company were confirmed by my colleagues, and I was honoured with their thanks for having made them. The Newfoundland and Atlantic Telegraph Companies are peculiar and different from any other Companies that I know of in the world. The book of subscription of the former was opened ten years ago at six o'clock in the morning, and in less than one half hour every share was subscribed for, and not a single original shareholder has ever sold a shilling of his interest in it; but on the contrary some of them have, whenever an opportunity presented itself, increased their stake in the enterprise, so that each one of them now holds a larger interest in it than at the commencement. The Directors are proud of their undertaking, which they look upon as one promoting the benefit of the whole human race. I have now to give you "The health of the Electrician of the Atlantic Telegraph Company." That gentleman has, within the last five years, visited America, and the report which I heard of him from our chief Electrician was, that he never met with a man who knew so much about electric science. I give the health of Mr Cromwell F. Varley. (Cheers.)

MR. VARLEY:—I am indeed very much obliged to you, Sir, for your kind attention to me on this occasion. At this late hour I will not attempt to go into the political bearings of the subject; I shall only slightly refer to the commercial, and say a word or two on the scientific part of the question. It is my opinion that you should get rid of the Government guarantee, which is of no benefit if the Cable works, and none whatever should it unfortunately fail. It however fixes the maximum charge that can be made to the public, beyond which you cannot go; and this amount is, in my opinion, far too low when it is considered that your Cable will have to connect the whole of the vast telegraphic system in the United States, in Canada, and Nova Scotia, with the innumerable telegraphic ramifications of Great Britain, the Continents of Europe, Africa, and Asia. At present there are between thirty and forty wires connecting England with Europe, and these are for the most part full of traffic. If, then, so many wires be required for the business between England and the rest of Europe, how many will be required to connect the one half of the world to the other? Certainly more than one cable. If, then, your rates be so low that you have more work than your wire will transmit, great delay will be the consequence, and I am perfectly certain, that unless you charge very much more than the maximum fixed by the Government, your Cable will be so deluged with work that your telegraph will be slower than the mail packet. The only remedy for this is to charge so much money that the number of messages received within the twenty-four hours shall be sufficiently limited to be transmitted within that time, otherwise you would get more and more behind every day. A telegraph is of no use unless it does its work with certainty and despatch. If you take the steps I recommend, the commercial success of the undertaking is guaranteed. Your earnings will be vastly greater than what you have hitherto calculated. Why, the telegraph from New York to California has paid cent. per cent. per annum. It

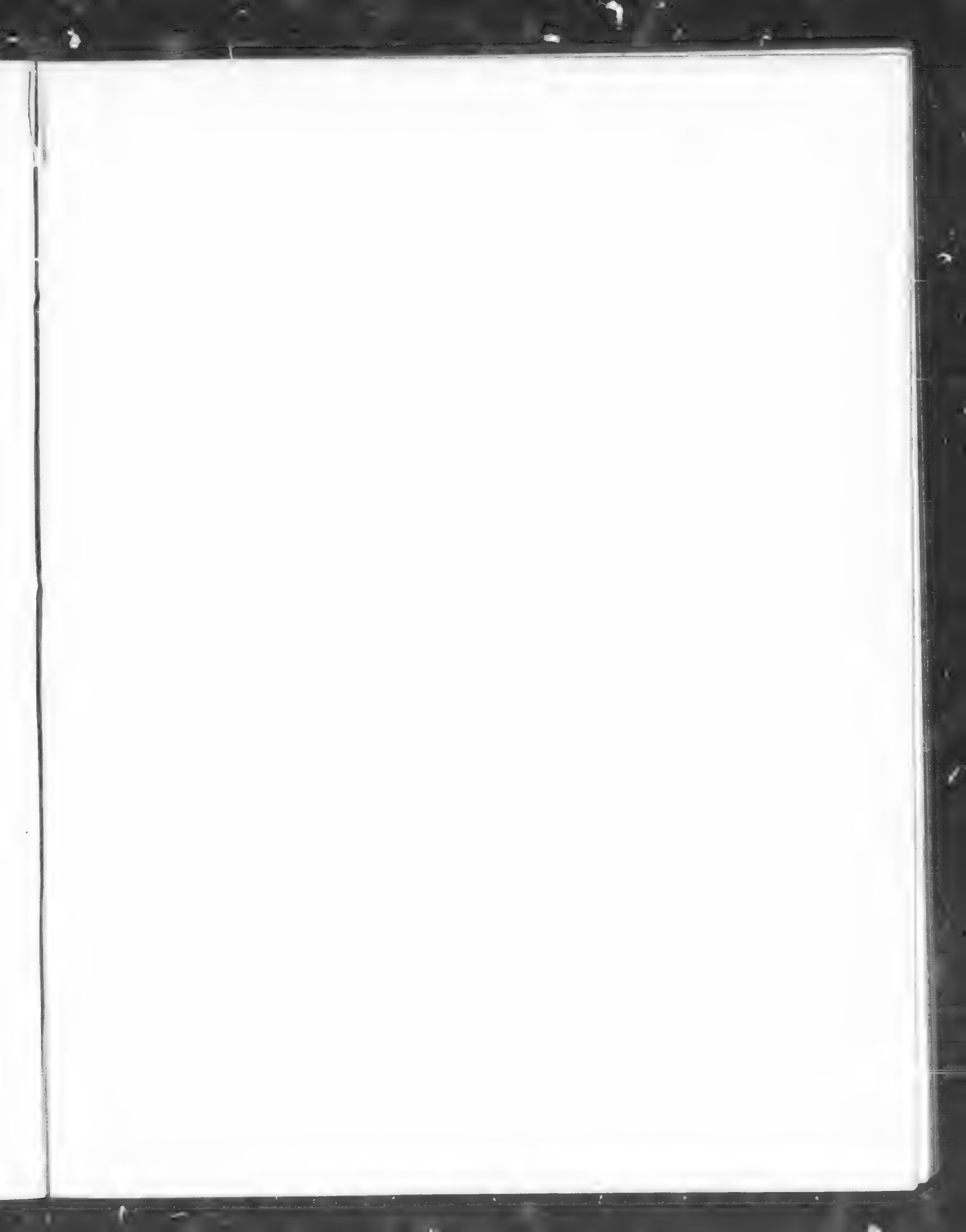
one wire be barely sufficient to transact the business between California and the rest of the United States, how is it possible that one wire shall be sufficient between Europe and America? I feel great confidence that when once a Cable is successfully laid across the Atlantic, the demands upon it will be so great that you will have to lay one or two per annum for the next twenty years, or even more. With regard to the science of the question. I claim to be a practical, as well as a theoretical man, and in order to study the best means of utilising your Cable when laid, it occurred to me that the best method of proceeding was to construct an artificial Atlantic Cable, possessing the same electrical conditions and consequent retardation as that which the Cable about to be manufactured will have. This I have succeeded in doing, and I have already tried a number of experiments on it. There is no doubt that through an Atlantic Cable, 1,900 miles in length, and of the dimensions of that now about to be made, eight words per minute can be transmitted, and I have considerable hope that we shall be able to increase that number to twelve or thirteen. Judging from the rates charged, and willingly paid, for messages between California and New York, and also between Alexandria and London, I feel no doubt whatever that if you charge so much per message as shall only just keep your Cable from being blocked up with work, it will pay 200 or 300 per cent. (Cheers.)

MR. FIELD:—A few days since we heard of the successful laying of the Cable in the Persian Gulf, which, when the land line from Bagdad to Bussorah is completed, will place his country in daily communication with the whole of India. We have present a gentle man connected with that great work. I now propose to you to drink "The health of Mr. Latimer Clark."

MR. LATIMER CLARK:—I feel, Sir, very deeply the honour you have now done me, and I feel an honour, too, in having been once connected with the Atlantic Telegraph Company. Ocean telegraphy is calculated to do universal good, not only pecuniarily, but morally. England will be soon now connected with India, China, and from thence with Australia, and I hope, for the success of your Cable, that the connection with those countries may be also extended to the American Continent; and I may add, after examining with close attention the plans that are now being adopted, that I have the fullest confidence in its complete success. (Cheers.)

MR. FIELD:—I regret much that that great man, Professor Faraday, is unable on account of his health to be with us this evening. When I came to this country in 1854, I waited on him and requested him to make some experiments for me, telling him that whatever might be his charge, I would willingly pay it. His reply was, "I shall have great pleasure in making the experiments for the sake of the enterprise, and shall not charge you anything." I will now propose to you "The health of Professor Michael Faraday."

Captain GALTON, in the absence of Professor Wheatstone who had just left, briefly returned thanks, and the festivities of the evening came to a close.





CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq.

Diner du 10 Mars, 1868.

Les Huitres

Potages

Printanière à la Royale.
Fête de Veau lié.

Consommé de Gibier.
Purée d'Artichauts aux Croûtons

Poissons.

Saumon, Sauce Hollandaise.
Turbot, Sauce de Homards.

Rougets à l'Italienne.
Filets de Merlans à la Horly.

Entrées

Mauviettes farcies à la Macédoine.
Ris de Veau piqués aux Champignons.

Suprême de Volaille aux Truffes.
Côtelettes de Mouton à la Réforme.

Relevés

Quartier d'Agneau rôti.
Hanche de Mouton rôtie.

Chapons braisés à la Toulouse.
Jambon glacé aux Epinards. Aloyau de Beuf.

Rôts

Leverautes bardés.

Pintades pinquées.

Canards sauvages.

Entremets

Mayonnaise de Homard.

Petits Pois à la Française.

Canapé d'Anchois.

Bavarois à la Vanille. Gelée de Pêches au Marasquin. Abricots à la Régence.
Suédois d'Oranges. Petits Gâteaux à la Célestine.

Relevés

Baba à la Polonoise.

Pouding glacé

Crème frite à la Parisienne

Palace Hotel, Buckingham Gate, London

NEW YORK, March 10th, 1854

LONDON, March 10th, 1868.



ANNIVERSARY BANQUET,

TUESDAY, 10th MARCH, 1868.

MR. CYRUS W. FIELD IN THE CHAIR

The following Guests were present:

Captain Sir JAMES ANDERSON.

Colonel FINLEY ANDERSON

F. E. ANSTIE, Esq., M.D.

WILLIAM BARBER, Esq.

SAMUEL P. BIDDER, Esq.

THOMAS BRASSEY, Esq.

Sir CHARLES T. BRIGHT, M.P.

CHARLES BURT, Esq.

J. W. BUSHBY, Esq.

Sir SAMUEL CANNING.

JOHN CHATTERTON, Esq.

F. W. CHESSON, Esq.

LATIMER CLARK, Esq.

HENRY CLIFFORD, Esq.

RICHARD COLLETT, Esq.

ROBERT CRAWFORD, Esq.

ROBERT DUDLEY, Esq.

CHARLES EDWARDS, Esq., M.P.

GEORGE ELLIOT, Esq.

Sir CHARLES FOX.

Captain DOUGLAS GALTON, C.B., R.E.

Sir DANIEL GOOCH, Bart., M.P.

SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq., M.P.

Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B.

Captain A. T. HAMILTON.

FREDERICK HARFORD, Esq.

WILLIAM T. HENLEY, Esq.

JOHN HORATIO FLOYD, Esq.

Captain MACKINNON, R.N., M.I.

T. M. MACKAY, Esq.

JAS. McLEAN, Esq.

J. R. McLEAN, Esq.

BENJAMIN MORAN, Esq.

Hon. FREEMAN H. MORSE.

Colonel D. D. MUTE.

JOSHUA NUNN, Esq.

Captain SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.I.

J. C. PARKINSON, Esq.

WM. PATERSON, Esq.

HOWARD POTTER, Esq.

Captain G. H. RICHARDS, R.N., C.I.

W. G. ROMAINE, Esq., C.E.

WM. H. RUSSELL, Esq., LL.D.

GEORGE SAWARD, Esq.

WM. F. SCHOLFIELD, Esq.

W. SHUTER, Esq.

G. W. SMALLEY, Esq.

JOHN SMITH, Esq.

WILLOUGHBY SMITH, Esq.

JOSEPH HERBERT TRITTON, Esq.

T. WALKER, Esq.

JOHN WALTER, Esq., F.R.S.

Professor Sir CHAS. WHEATSTONE.

H. WEAVER, Esq.

T. H. WELLS, Esq.

The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORLFE.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE BANQUET.

..

MR. CYRUS FIELD informed his assembled guests that the Electric and International Telegraph Company had, with great kindness, brought a telegraph wire into that room, by which he could communicate direct with America, and that he was about to send telegrams to the President of the United States, to the Hon. Mr. Seward, and to other gentlemen in America, to the Governor-General of Cuba, and the Governor of Newfoundland. He doubted not that before they left the table replies would be received from some of their friends on the other side of the Atlantic.

At the first interval of the dinner, Mr. Field announced that he had a few minutes before sent a telegraphic message from the room to Newfoundland, as follows :

" PALACE HOTEL, LONDON,

March 10th, 7.30 p.m.

To the Staff of the Anglo-American and Newfoundland Companies at Heart's Content.

Our best wishes

CYRUS W. FIELD."

Mr. FIELD said that in six minutes from the time the message had left the room the following reply was received by him :

" Heart's Content, March 10th, 7.32 p.m. (Greenwich time.)

To CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., Palace Hotel, London.

Yours received. Wind, S.W.; weather fine; temperature, 32 Fahr. The Staff of the Anglo-American and Newfoundland Companies send their respects, and wish you every happiness.

WEEDON."

THE PROMPTNESS OF THE REPLY GAVE MUCH SATISFACTION.

A message was sent at 26 minutes past 7 to His Excellency the Governor of Newfoundland. It is as follows :

" PALACE HOTEL, LONDON,

7.26 p.m., 10th March, 1868.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

We rejoice that the province of Newfoundland, which was the first to encourage the Atlantic Telegraph by an Act of its Legislature, is now in telegraphic communication with the Old World.—Miss Jeanie, Miss Alice, and Miss Fanny Field, who are with me, desire to be kindly remembered to you.

CYRUS W. FIELD."

On arrival at St. John's, the message had to be sent some distance by messenger to the Government House, yet at four minutes past eight we received his reply, being thirty-eight minutes in all from the time it left the room. The following is the telegram we have received from that gentleman:—

"ST. JOHN'S, *Newfoundland*, 10th March, 4.10 p.m.

To CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *Palace Hotel, London*.

I take the occasion of the anniversary of the day on which you signed the agreement with the others of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, to establish telegraphic communication between Europe and America, to renew my congratulations on the accomplishment and practical success of the great undertaking then commenced

A. MUSGRAVE."

(CHEERS.)

[At this moment the Misses Field, with their friends, Miss Sullivan and Miss Lawrence, who were escorted by Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., Sir Charles F. Bright, M.P., Sir Samuel Canning, and Sir Charles Fox, entered the room amidst loud and prolonged cheering. They took places *vis-à-vis* to Mr. Cyrus Field.]

MR. FIELD continued:—At ten minutes past seven this evening the following telegraph message was sent from this room to the venerable Peter Cooper, at New York, who was one of the five who signed, 14 years ago this night, at my house in New York, the original agreement to establish telegraphic communication between Europe and America:—

"PALACE HOTEL, LONDON.

7.10 p.m., Tuesday, 10th March, 1868

PETER COOPER, Esq., *President, New York*

The gentlemen now sitting around this table rejoice with you and the other Directors of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, in the complete success of telegraphic communication between Europe and America, which was inaugurated fourteen years ago this day, and pray that it may long continue to be a blessing to those two great kindred nations living on opposite sides of the Atlantic

CYRUS W. FIELD."

I know not in what part of New York our friend was at the time we telegraphed,

or how far the message had to be sent to reach him, but we received his reply in this room in one hour and eight minutes, as follows—

NEW YORK, Tuesday, 2.35 / 1868

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., at the Banquet, Palace Hotel, Buckingham Gate, London

Yours received 2.27 p.m. The Directors of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company desire to join in the general joy produced by the harmonious action of the Atlantic and Anglo-American Companies, which promises so much benefit not only to the Shareholders, but to the world at large. The co-operation of the Newfoundland Company can be confidently counted on in the measures which are now possible and hence certain for the extension and cheapening of telegraphic facilities, whereby the commerce of the world will be enlarged, and the bonds of peace between nations be strengthened and confirmed

PETER COOPER

LOUD APPLAUSE FOLLOWED THE READING OF THIS MESSAGE

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—You will pardon me I am sure for reading the next telegram. I should have read it alone with my daughters, but as they are now here with me at this table, and as we are all friends together, I will read it to you. I telegraphed to my wife, after we sat down at this table, as follows

PALACE HOTEL, LONDON,

6.57 p.m., Tuesday Evening, 10th March

To Mrs. CYRUS FIELD, Gramercy Park, New York

We are now at dinner and all in excellent spirits, and hope that you and all that are with you are in the same happy condition. Miss Sullivan is with us. Please reply, saying what time you receive this

CYRUS W. FIELD.

Perhaps I should have mentioned that this day is an anniversary that my family celebrates, and that at this moment the members of it are rejoicing in my own house. Her reply is not intended for you, but I will read it to you (Hear, hear.)

NEW YORK, Tuesday, 2.30 p.m., March 10th, 1868

To CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., Palace Hotel, London

Yours received. All well. Love to my daughters, and all of your party. Thank Miss Sullivan for me, for acting as hostess. Tell your guests that we shall be too glad to join you in entertaining them, and that if they will cross the Atlantic, we will give them a welcome, as hearty, if possible, as our English friends have always given to you.

MARY S. FIELD.

THIS MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED WITH ACCLAMATION

I asked my friend Colonel Sanford, President of the Central American Telegraph Company of New York, an hour ago, what he was doing about the Submarine Telegraph from Cuba to the Isthmus of Panama. He replies as follows :—

„ YORK, March 10th.

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq. Lot

„ We are about to drop a line to South America, and hope the response will soon be vibrating over the Atlantic Cable.

EDWARDS S. SANFORD.”

After the cloth had been removed the usual loyal toasts of “ *The Queen*,” “ *The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family*,”—and one to “ *The President of the United States*,” were given and honoured with hearty cheers

Mr. CYRUS FIELD then spoke as follows :

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—I had hoped we should have been honoured by the presence to-night of the United States Minister. I have received two notes from him expressing great regret that he could not, on account of prior engagements, be with us. I propose to you, “ The health of His Excellency the Honourable Charles Francis Adams, the American Minister who, much to the regret of every one who has been brought into official or friendly intercourse with him, is about to leave this country, after long, faithful, and distinguished services ” (Loud and prolonged cheering.) As Mr. Adams is absent I shall call upon a gentleman, to speak to this toast, who has recently travelled in America, and who has had an opportunity of knowing the great services which Mr. Adams has rendered to the world by maintaining peace between England and America during a most trying period of their history. I shall ask Mr. Walter to respond.

Mr. WALTER then said :

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :— I am sure that there is not one here present who does not deeply share the regret which has been so well expressed by our worthy host, that this splendid and auspicious banquet is not graced by the presence of His Excellency the American Minister. I am also sure that if there be one circumstance that would have appeared, two years ago, more improbable than another, both to that distinguished personage and to the humble individual who now addresses you, it is that I should be called upon by Mr. Cyrus Field, in this room, to return thanks for the toast which has been proposed to the health of the American Minister. (Hear.) It is only within a very short period that I have had the privilege of becoming personally acquainted with His Excellency, and I owe that privilege to the same circumstance to which I am

us, indebted for the pleasure of Mr. Cyrus Field's acquaintance, namely that to which he has adverted, a recent, short, but most interesting tour which I made in the autumn of 1866, in the United States. (Hear.) That visit made a very deep impression on my mind. It convinced me that there was no object so worthy of the attention of any Englishman, so truly important to the future welfare and civilisation of our race, as that every citizen of the two countries should strive by all the means in his power to promote good-will and sincere friendship between these two countries. (Hear.) Judging from my own experience, and I am sure in so speaking I am but expressing the sentiments of every one who has visited that country, I can safely assert, that unless the United States be personally visited, it is utterly impossible to form a just idea of the condition, of the prospects, and of the destinies of that vast and important country. We in Europe have been too long accustomed to think of civilised countries like our own. We are conscious of the greatness to which all European countries have attained; but we are not sufficiently conscious of the vast strides which are now being made in that vast region beyond the Atlantic. We have yet to learn or realise the fact, that before the end of the century America will probably have a population of one hundred millions of people,—people as intelligent as ourselves, more energetic, perhaps, in their character and habits, and impressed with the strongest ideas of their future destiny. Much as I love and venerate my own country, and thoroughly as I am impressed with the belief that still better destinies may await her, I cannot help feeling that the greatest acts which have yet to be performed in this world's history will be performed on that vast continent. I think it is impossible for the mind to foresee the vast stride of civilisation and commerce which must take place when the Great Atlantic and Pacific Railway is opened to San Francisco. That will bring us into closer connection with those great masses of barbarism upon which we have yet scarcely made any impression. Any person who is acquainted with that great enterprise, must feel that, when that line has been opened, quite a new and unprecedented act will commence in the great drama of this world's history. But my thoughts, ladies and gentlemen, are leading me away from the immediate subject of this toast. Every one who has had the pleasure of Mr. Adams's personal acquaintance, is well aware that no citizen of the United States, who might have the honour to represent his country in Great Britain, could have been more safely or wisely entrusted with the representation of that country than Mr. Adams. (Cheers.) He is the representative of families the best and oldest in the States with which we are acquainted. I have had the pleasure of seeing the portraits of his father and grandfather in one of the public halls of Boston, and I was pleased, when I returned to England, and made his acquaintance, to see the strong historical, and family likeness which Mr. Adams bears to his ancestors. I believe no one is admired more for his personal excellences, his calmness, urbanity, and tact. These elements combined have enabled Mr. Adams to preserve peace, harmony, and good-will between the two countries (Hear, hear.) Waiting the termination of the long and yet unconcluded correspondence

with reference to the Alabama question, I must add, ladies and gentlemen, that when I see the good feeling which has sprung up on that point, when I see the anxious desire that is evinced by the leading statesmen, and the leading members of the press in these two countries. I cannot but think that if two such men as Mr. Adams and Lord Stanley were closeted in a room, they would make short work of the Alabama question. (Hear, hear.) I can only say that I trust whoever may be called by the United States to succeed Mr. Adams, he will still impress upon that, and upon all other questions, the same dignity, the same forbearance, and the same courteous spirit of conciliation which distinguished that minister. I will now conclude by expressing my regret, and the regret that every one in this country who has the pleasure of knowing Mr. Adams must feel, that he will so soon quit these shores. (Loud cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD then said :—We have present a gentleman who for seven years has been brought into official communication with Mr. Adams, and I know the sadness he feels that soon this link of friendship will be severed. I allude to Mr. Moran, the Secretary of the Legation.

MR. B. MORAN :—Ladies and Gentlemen, I regret exceedingly Mr. Adams is not here to-night to respond to the terms in which you have so kindly expressed your good feeling towards him. It is rather awkward to reply to a toast for another ; but I do not hesitate on this occasion. I have had the good fortune for nearly seven years to be closely associated with Mr. Adams in his trying official career in London, and I can bear testimony, as all men can, to his excellence, his courtesy, and his remarkable ability. He has, as we all know, displayed great skill as a statesman, and will leave amongst you a name that will not soon be forgotten. (Cheers.) He has won good opinions on both sides of the Atlantic, and is one of those men who will leave the world, when he does leave it, better than he found it. (Loud cheers.) I might greatly extend these remarks, but under the circumstances I must ask you not to press me to make further comments, but to accept my hearty thanks for the manner in which you have been pleased to receive the name of my most honoured and excellent *chef*. (Loud cheers.)

MR. J. H. LLOYD :—Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask permission to propose a toast ; although I feel great diffidence in doing so, because I see many present more worthy to propose it than I am, yet there may be personal reasons which render it not altogether inappropriate that I should have the pleasure of introducing the honoured name which I am about to bring before your notice. The toast, which will, I am sure, be received here with the utmost cordiality, is, "Our kind and distinguished host, Mr. Cyrus Field." (Loud and continued cheering.) I have said there are reasons which render it perhaps not inappropriate that I should be the organ of this communication ; and one of them

is a feeling of personal regard and affection, and a sense of obligation which words are inadequate to express. For the kindness which some of my family have experienced at his hands, I shall remain grateful as long as life continues. (Cheers.) But there are other reasons which may warrant my being the spokesman on this occasion. I was one of the first subscribers to the great work which has been so triumphantly accomplished. (Cheers.) I was one of the few who decided, having no interest—no commercial interest, I mean—to invest my thousand pounds, simply in the hope that a great work might be accomplished for the world's good. The result of that first venture is known to all. My thousand pounds, with many other thousands, went to the bottom of the Atlantic ocean, but not with it my hopes and confidence. I subscribed another thousand, and through good report and evil report, and under all circumstances, in spite of failure and disaster, I never lost heart or courage. I had faith in the ultimate achievement of that great work, and I have reaped my reward pecuniarily as well as personally. (Laughter.) But, if this be true of myself, what shall be said of the man whose name I have the honour to bring before you? Fourteen years ago, he originated the grand idea of the Atlantic Cable, and for these long years he has struggled on with untiring energy and unflinching determination; hoping against hope, believing almost against conviction, never disheartened by failure, never daunted by difficulties. Confident, from the spirit or instinct, I suppose, which God had given him, that he was one of His appointed instruments for this end, he has, with the aid and co-operation of other illustrious men who are now round about me, and who have received their meed of well-earned honour, succeeded in completing a work such as the world never before witnessed, and which is the crowning glory and triumph of our century. (Loud cheers.) We have had heroes and conquerors, and they have their laurels and statues; but, to my mind, the true hero and conqueror is the man who, steadfast in his resolve to work out a great end by great means, stands firm and erect in the midst of disaster and disappointment, who conquers the forces of nature and overcomes all obstacles, moral and physical, that beset his path, by setting against them his own determined will. (Cheers.) The man in whom these qualities are combined, is he whom we are proud to have among us to-day, and when to this we add that he is a courteous gentleman, a kind, earnest, and staunch friend, a man of amiable disposition, and of a temper of a sweetness rarely to be found, and, last, not least, a very Amphytrion of hosts, I am sure we shall do honour to toast, and drink with enthusiasm the health of Mr. CYRUS FIELD.

LOUD AND CONTINUED APPLAUSE FOLLOWED THE TOAST, THE GUESTS RISING AND CHEERING AGAIN AND AGAIN.

Mr. CYRUS FIELD, who on rising was met with redoubled acclamation, said: Mr. Lloyd, I thank you most sincerely for the kind words you have spoken, and you, ladies and gentlemen, for the manner in which you have received them. Fourteen years ago, this

very night, after partaking of a good dinner—(laughter), and after a preliminary discussion on the three preceding evenings, five gentlemen—Peter Cooper, Moses Taylor, Marshall O. Roberts, Chandler White, and I myself—signed an agreement in my own dining room in New York, that we would establish telegraphic communication between London and New York. God knows that none of us were then aware of what we had undertaken to accomplish! Gentlemen, those fourteen years have been fourteen anxious years. After that document was signed, we found, for more than thirteen years and six months, we did nothing but pay out. It is within the last six months only that we have received the first return from the money we had put at the bottom of the Atlantic. (Cheers.) I do not believe that any enterprise has ever been undertaken that has had such fortune—that has been so low, and, one might almost say, so high. I have known the time when a thousand pounds of Atlantic Telegraph Stock sold in London at a high premium. I have known the time when a thousand pounds of the same Stock was purchased by my worthy friend, the Right Honourable Mr. WORTLEY, for thirty guineas. (Hear.) At one time, when I was in London, trying to raise money to carry forward this great enterprise, a certificate for ten thousand dollars (£2,000 sterling) in the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company sold at the Merchants' Exchange in New York by public auction for a ten-dollar bill (£2). (Laughter.) On my return home, the gentleman handed the certificate to me, and asked me if it was worth anything. I said to him, "My dear sir, what did you pay for it," and, to my great mortification, he showed to me the auctioneer's bill for ten dollars. I said to him, "I shall be happy to pay you a good profit on your investment." He replied, "No: what do you advise me to do with it?" I rejoined, "Lock it up in your safe. Do not even think about or look at it until you receive a notice to collect your dividends." The holder now receives a dividend of eight hundred dollars per annum (or £160) in gold for his investment. (Loud cheers.) If any gentleman here has ever possessed a more fluctuating investment, I should like to hear of it. (Laughter.) But, gentlemen, I confess to you it is a satisfaction to me, after these fourteen years of struggle, on this anniversary of that night, in the presence of some members of my family, to meet, around this festive board, with so many who have contributed in a variety of ways to the success of this enterprise. God knows that, while my heart beats, I shall remember them with affection; and I feel truly thankful that, of the five gentlemen who signed the original agreement, all are now living in good health except one. Mr. Chandler White, who died in 1856, and whose place was at once filled by my esteemed friend Mr. Wilson G. Hunt. I could, ladies and gentlemen, spend the whole evening in telling you what some of the gentlemen around this table have done to connect Europe and America by a Submarine Cable, but I must not linger on these recollections now. I trust that history will do them justice. The Queen has remembered some and recognised their services; but, the paramount recognition that should gratify those gentlemen above and beyond all is the satisfaction that the enterprise we have completed binds together two nations that are absc-

brothers. Your fathers were my fathers. My venerable father, at seventy years of age, came to England, and spent six months in tracing out the genealogy of our family. (Gentlemen, I say accursed be the man—I care not whether he be an Englishman or an American—that would sow discord between these two kindred nations. (Loud and continued cheering.) I pray that all that ill-feeling which has been engendered in the last few years between these two nations may be buried as deep as the Atlantic Cable, and that this union between England and America may never, never, be broken. (Cheers.) Ladies and Gentlemen, it is such a long line from here to America, that when I commence talking about the subject, I do not know when to stop. There are many round this board whom you are anxious to hear. I again thank you for your kindness to me, and for the kindness which I have always received from my English friends. I have been always received and treated by Englishmen with great kindness, and shall always remember that kindness by giving a cordial welcome to such of you as may be able to visit me in America. (Cheers.)

MR. FIELD, after a pause of a few moments, rose again, and said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, at two minutes past seven this evening I sent the following telegram:—

“PALACE HOTEL, LONDON,

7.2 p.m., Tuesday, 10th March.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, Washington.

The guests assembled at the Telegraph Banquet send their cordial greetings to the President of the United States, and trust that the telegraphic union between England and America may never be interrupted, nor the friendship between them broken.

CYRUS W. FIELD

To this message I have had the honour of receiving the following reply:

“WASHINGTON. 3.30 p.m., 10th March

To Mr. CYRUS W. FIELD, Palace Hotel, London

Express my congratulations to the Telegraph Festival assembly. I wish them all possible success; that their wires may be multiplied through many seas, and their stakes extended around the world

ANDREW JOHNSON

LOUD CHEERS.

MR. CYRUS FIELD:—The next toast I have to propose is, "The Armies and Navies of Great Britain and of the United States. May they always be efficient, and never opposed to each other." I shall call upon my friend the gallant "Admiral" Richards to reply to this.

Captain RICHARDS:—My friend Mr. Cyrus Field is generally good enough to confer *brevêt* rank on me. (A laugh.) He is a very bad sailor, however, who cannot answer for his own profession without much hesitation, and as I do not see any American naval friends present, I will endeavour to account for both. I suppose I may say, without much fear of contradiction, that the navies of all countries are connected in some degree with bloodshed, destruction, devastation, desolation, and other agreeable associations which, perhaps, the peculiar circumstances of this occasion, and the Company I am addressing, may excuse me from dilating upon. (Laughter.) It is very fortunate for me that it is so, because, as I have for so long now been engaged in the peaceable part of the profession, I really do not feel equal to talking to you about iron-clads, or turrets, or broadsides, or guns, or such trifling matters. If you desire to be enlightened on such subjects, my friend Captain Sherard Osborn is well able, and I am sure will be happy to do so. For myself, addressing, as I am sure I am, an extremely peaceable and well-disposed congregation—(laughter)—I should be quite prepared to recommend, and I think it would be, if not a wise, certainly an economical measure, to take all the turrets and the iron plates, all the guns and other engines of destruction, and cast them into telegraph wires. (Great laughter.) I thank you for the honour you have done the navy; and, seriously, before I sit down, I should like to say one word on the part of the navy present, and that is, that we most cordially congratulate our friend Mr. Field on his return to England, and on his success, and to tell him—and I know it will be gratifying to him to hear—that his name is not only well known but highly respected by all naval men with whom I am acquainted. (Cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD:—Ladies and Gentlemen, the next toast, I am sure, will be well received, especially by some of us who are interested in the pecuniary success of the Telegraph. That toast, which I now propose, is "The Atlantic Telegraph Cables! May they always continue to be as useful as they are at present, politically, commercially, socially!"—and I will call upon my esteemed friend The Right Honourable James Stuart Wortley, who has for many years been the able Chairman of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, to reply.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JAMES STUART WORTLEY:—Mr. Field, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is always a difficult task to acknowledge a personal compliment, in becoming terms, before an assembly of this nature, and especially graced as it is by the presence of the ladies who have just honoured us by joining your company. I feel it to be still more

embarrassing, when I see around your table so many men of untiring energy, of distinction in science, and of exalted genius, to whom the great enterprise, with which you have associated my name, is so much more deeply indented than in the fortunate Chairman of the old and original Company. Although not unaccustomed to addressing public assemblies, I feel a difficulty in expressing to you my sense of the honour you have done me. I am proud, however, in sharing that honour with a gentleman of great distinction in this country, whom I am happy to recognise here to-night, and it is my duty, in obedience to you, to acknowledge the compliment you have just paid to us; but you, Mr. Field, are the person to whom the congratulations are, on this occasion, first due. For you have concentrated and assembled round you men who are meeting here for mutual congratulation upon the accomplishment of one of the wonders of the world. (Cheers.) Truly do you say, Sir, that there have been different stages of time when men ridiculed this great idea when we have all, personally, in our own circles, had to bear the ridicule thrown upon us for supporting so extravagant a project. Now, Sir, we are met to celebrate its triumph, and we may shake each other's hands, rejoicing heartily at its accomplishment. (Cheers.) I have been a shareholder from the first, and I am so somewhat proud of my original £1,000 shares; and of those shares to which you have alluded, which I truly bought at £30 each. I am anxious, however, that those gentlemen who heard that statement should understand that I have not yet made a fortune out of the Cable. (Laughter.) The vicissitudes we have gone through have prevented us from doing much financially, and, indeed, we have had difficulty at times in keeping the enterprise afloat. By perseverance, however, we have been able to live through all these years, and as Chairman of the Company I have only done my best to carry the affair out. I have tried to keep things straight and smooth, and the event, I hope, shows that I have done so with some success. The people to whom you are really indebted are the electricians—like my friend Sir Charles Wheatstone, who sits next to me—to our engineers, to our mechanics, and not least to the gallant seamen who have laid and resuscitated our beneficent Cables. (Cheers.) They have at last accomplished the great work. I am, on this occasion, proud of the mention you have made of my name, but I should be abusing the compliment if I were to detain you on that head. With regard to the absence of Mr. Adams, I may say, that as I have had the honour of meeting him at your table before, and often in general society, it would have been a pleasant thing indeed to have had him with us to-night. No one who knows Mr. Adams, or the feeling of English society towards him, can but regret that on such an occasion as this he should not be present. To hear that he was going to leave us caused regret to every intelligent Englishman who could appreciate his character, and we shall all deeply regret his departure. (Hear.) But although we miss his presence, we may at this moment congratulate ourselves upon having established a marvellous connection between his country and ours, by which whosoever represents America here may find his task facilitated in maintaining harmony between the two nations. We may take to ourselves some part of the honour of that

invention. Again, in its marvellous work—and I do not allude to what I have seen to night, the instantaneous communication between this country and America, crossing under the great Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico—one of its greatest feats has lately been accomplished under the auspices of our worthy Chairman, by his sending the conciliatory debate of the House of Commons on the Alabama claims to America. (Hear, hear.) I am very glad this has been done, as it is far more likely to create good feeling between the two countries than anything else. Sir, this Cable and its wondrous effects may be compared to those beautiful instruments by which a skilful physician, placing one end of the instrument upon the centres of breathing and circulation, can hear and detect the slightest pulse of the heart, and know exactly what is passing through the veins of his patient. The two nations, by constant and frequent communication, will learn to know much more of each other; to learn what passes in their mutual breasts, and they will be led to cultivate more perfect friendship and harmony. (Cheers.) I have finished, but I will not sit down without expressing my great gratification at the position in which we now stand. We have gone through great vicissitudes, and yet the most painful part we have gone through has been the sort of apparent difficulty or controversy with which we have had to contend during the past few weeks. But though, by the arrangement of our seats to-night, I have my friends Sir Daniel Gooch and Captain Hamilton on what may be called the Opposition Benches—(A voice: "No, no")—I trust when we get back to our offices there will be no more difficulty, and that we shall have a perfect junction of interest with the Anglo-American Company, and eventually a perfect amalgamation; and then, conducting our great enterprise in established harmony, we shall have contributed to the good feeling between the two countries, and generally to the benefit of all the nations of the world. (Loud cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD:—I hope we shall hear from my worthy friend Sir Daniel Gooch, who holds not only the position of Director of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, but is Chairman of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, and also Chairman of the Great Eastern Steam Ship Company. (A voice: "He is also Chairman of the Great Western Railway Company.") Yes, but that has nothing to do with telegraphy. (Laughter and cheers.) He is one of that band who met together in the trying hours of the Atlantic Telegraph enterprise, and put his name down for a large sum of money. The Queen has recognised his services by conferring upon him the title of Baronet.

SIR DANIEL GOOCH, BART., M.P.:—Ladies and Gentlemen, the very small part I have taken in the matter will require from me very few words; but I must, after what I have heard from my friend Mr. Wortley, say a few words with regard to the position of the Anglo-American Company. There is no person who has been more anxious or more desirous, from the very first, that the Companies associated in this great work should be one. I mean the three Companies—The Old Atlantic, The Anglo-American, and

The New York, Newfoundland, and London. (Cheers.) I believe those three Companies ought to form one united Company. (Hear, hear.) I believe that by those three Companies keeping in their hands the telegraphic communication from America, and making that communication so efficient and so cheap as to prevent rivalry or competition, we can retain the position we hold. (Cheers.) From the first, I have done all I can to bring about that position of affairs. I regret, and no one regrets more than I do, that a small amount of ill-feeling has been carried so far, and has been allowed to exist: but I do trust, although I do not know at the present moment what the exact position of affairs is between the Companies, and I do hope that this affair will be brought to a final and satisfactory termination. I am quite sure that the Anglo-American directors are anxious to do all they can to meet the wishes of the Atlantic Company as far as possible, that is, consistently with the interest of their own shareholders. They have those interests to consider, and they have considered them, and they have always been anxious and willing to meet the Atlantic Company. I can only, on behalf of the Anglo-American directors, express my deep thanks for the kind way in which you have received the mention of the Cables, which I am sure we must all wish may be only a beginning of such works, and that they may increase to an extent far beyond what is at present known. (Cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD:—I hope we shall hear something from Mr. Seward, who has been the Secretary of the Atlantic Telegraph Company from its very commencement, and unremitting in his attention to the interests of the Company.

MR. SEWARD:—Mr. Chairman, you have done me an unexpected honour in calling me from my seat; but the subject of the Atlantic Telegraph is so expansive that it may afford an opportunity for a few words even from me. I have had great pleasure in being connected with this undertaking since 1856, and still greater in associating from time to time with our worthy host in much of his labour during his most intense application to this great work. I have also had very great pleasure in many other happy associations formed in connection with the hard and laborious work which has been devoted in association with my directors to this great enterprise. With regard to differences that have originated in the past between the Anglo and the Atlantic Companies, I can only say that I believe to a great extent, each has been doing what was thought to be their duty to their own shareholders, and I am happy to be able to state that those differences are now practically merged in a common unity of purpose, which will shortly be developed, and which will be very greatly to the advantage of their respective shareholders, and to the public generally who use the Cables. (Cheers.) There needs no eloquence to show the benefit of union, and therefore I will only say that, having long used my best endeavours to produce it, it is to me a gratification to think that union has at last, after so long a delay, been accomplished. (Cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, we have received more telegrams, and I am afraid, if they keep coming in as they do, we shall not be able to continue with our programme, and, I fear, shall have to stop the wire. The following telegram was sent

—PALACE HOTEL, LONDON

7.5 p.m., Tuesday, 10th March

To The Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State, Washington.*

The principal gentlemen in England who have been connected with establishing telegraphic communication between this country and America, now assembled round this table, send their kind regards to the Secretary of State, and remember, with pleasure, the interest he has always taken in telegraphic communication across the Atlantic

CYRUS W. FIELD

To this telegram I have received the following reply

—WASHINGTON, 3.30 p.m., 10th March, 1868

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *Palace Hotel, London.*

I congratulate the Telegraph builders that, instead of building a bridge for the tramp of hostile armies across the Atlantic, they have stretched a wire beneath which effectually exchanges friendly sentiments, sympathy, and affection—

W. H. SEWARD.

(LOUD CHEERS.)

Perhaps I should mention that Mr. Seward took great interest in this enterprise twenty years ago, and drew the Bill, which was passed by the Congress of the United States, to grant a subsidy to the Atlantic Telegraph. He also, at 20 minutes past 7 there was despatched a telegram to the President of the largest Telegraph Company in the world. It possesses more than a hundred thousand miles of wire, extending from Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the British Provinces of North America into Texas, &c., soon will extend its communication to Mexico.

—PALACE HOTEL, LONDON.

7.2 p.m., Tuesday, 10th March

Hon. WM. ORTON, *President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, New York.*

There are now assembled around this board many of the principal telegraph men of England, and they present their compliments to you and to the directors of

the Western Union Telegraph Company, and trust that the telegraphic union between the Old and the New World may never be broken, and that the cordial relations now existing between the Telegraph Companies on both sides of the Atlantic may never be interrupted

CYRUS W. FIELD

(CHEERS)

That gentleman replies as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY,

145, BROADWAY, NEW YORK, *March 10th, 1868*

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *Palace Hotel, London*

For the Western Union Telegraph Company's Directors and myself accept and convey to your assembled guests reciprocal assurances of personal and business friendship. Those who do you honour on this occasion are not alone those who sit at your table. The latter are but the representatives of the countless host who throughout the world within the influence of the Press and the Telegraph, sit daily at a feast of reason, ever satisfying but never satisfied, with whom your name shall be a household word for centuries to come

WM. ORTON

(HEAR, HEAR, AND CHEERS)

The next is from our Superintendent in Newfoundland. As I did not know where he was, telegraphed to ascertain his whereabouts. This is his telegram:

ST. JOHN'S, *March 10th, 5.17 p.m.*

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *London.*

Arrived from Heart's Content last night. Best regards to you and your friends. Mrs. Mackay sends compliments to Miss Alice and Miss Fanny. Lines working well

A. M. MACKAY

At 7.19 p.m. a telegraphic despatch was sent to General Smith, President of the International Ocean Telegraph Company, New York

PALACE HOTEL, LONDON.

7.19 p.m., *Tuesday, March 10, 1868*

To General SMITH, *President of the International Ocean Telegraph Company, New York*

What is the weather to-day in Havannah? What have you done since I left New York about the extension of the Telegraph Line from Cuba to the Isthmus of Panama? Give my kindest regards to Colonel Sanford and all your other associates in this important enterprise, and say that we wish them an entire success

CYRUS W. FIELD

To which he replied : -

" NEW YORK, *March 10th*

To CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., London.

I leave to-morrow for England to contract for a second Cable from Florida to Cuba. The Central American Telegraph Company is organised, and I leave General Sanford to speak for himself, as also our Vice-President in Havannah. Present the compliments of this Company to their telegraph brethren in England.

WM. F. SMITH.

President.

(CHEERS.)

The following was sent this evening to the Captain-General of Cuba, Havannah :—

" PALACE HOTEL, LONDON, *March 10th, 7.22 p.m.*

To LIEUT.-GENERAL FRANCISCO LERSUNDI, Captain-General of Cuba

We rejoice with you that Cuba has been brought into telegraphic communication with the Old World, and trust that your beautiful island will be soon connected with the Isthmus of Panama.

CYRUS W. FIELD

And we have received the following :

" HAVANNAH, *March 10th, 1868.*

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *London.*

The Captain-General is very favourably disposed to the extension of telegraphic communication, and every project will meet with encouragement from him, as well as the public, who are anxious for increased facilities in obtaining rapid intelligence from other countries.

J. NEUNINGER,

Vice-President of the International Ocean Telegraph Company

AT THE TERMINATION OF THE READING OF THESE TELEGRAMS, WHICH HAD EXCITED MUCH SURPRISE, AND WERE RECEIVED WITH LOUD CHEERS.

MR. CYRUS FIELD resumed :—The toast of the Houses of Lords and Commons which I have next to propose to you is one to which I had hoped for a response from the Right Hon. William E. Gladstone. I had also expected the presence of several other Members, who promised to be here this evening, but who are detained by the Irish debate. Before I give you the toast I will, with your permission, read a note just received from Mr. Gladstone.

MR. FIELD THEN READ THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM MR. GLADSTONE

" HOUSE OF COMMONS, *March 10th, 1868, 7 p.m.*

My Dear Sir,—I have cherished to the last the hope of coming to see you, but unhappily it is now arranged that Lord Mayo will not speak until after dinner, and I therefore fear that my presence, at the only time of the evening when it would have been of use, will be impossible.

I should have much enjoyed, and I had greatly coveted, the opportunity your kindness offered—speaking a word of good-will to your country, but I am detained here by a yet higher duty; for there is, in my judgment, no duty for public men in England which at this juncture is so high, so sacred, as that of studying the case of Ireland and applying the remedies which I believe it admit

We shall be here until past midnight, but not without thoughts of your festival and of the greatness of the country with which it is connected. You are called upon to encounter difficulties, and to sustain struggles, which some years ago I should have said were beyond human strength. But I have learned to be more cautious in taking the measure of American possibilities; and, looking to your past, there is nothing which we may not hope of your future.

I remain, My Dear Sir,

Most faithfully yours,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LETTER WAS RECEIVED WITH CHEERS, WHICH WERE ANSWERED AT THE TERMINATION OF THE READING.

Mr. FIELD:—I now give you "The House of Lords and House of Commons," and will call upon my friend Captain Mackinnon.

Capt. MACKINNON, R.N., M.P.:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am called upon, undeservedly, to return thanks for the House of Lords and the House of Commons in the place of Mr. Gladstone. I see many honourable Members here who certainly represent more numerous constituencies than I do; but when I think that I have been connected with the United States of America for a considerable time, that perhaps affords some justification for my returning thanks for the House of Commons. (Hear.) Gentlemen, I have known America and the Field family for a great many years. I think nearly twenty years ago when I first went to America; then I found that nobody in this country knew anything about America, and in that country they were very ignorant about England, and there was a hostile feeling between them. But since then, it has been my lot to move amongst society in America and London, and I have seen daily for the last fifteen years certainly the greatest feeling of friendliness between the two nations. I was very much interested in the Alabama debates in the House of Commons, and every one here will agree with me, that every allusion to friendly feeling between this country and America was received with loud applause, and great satisfaction indeed—(cheers).—and I am quite satisfied, in my own mind, that the two nations are approximating now to great

friendship and friendliness. With regard to my own experience, I have been all over America, and I can tell you I have met with the greatest kindness and attention there. I have never received a single uncivil word during my stay in that country, and that is saying a good deal; you cannot say that with regard to this country. I may say I have a large and agreeable acquaintance in America when it justifies me to "squat" down here between American ladies. (Capt. Mackinnon had his seat beside the Misses Field.) That gives me a right to say that I am well known in America. I return you my thanks for the House of Commons. (Cheers.)

MR. CHARLES EDWARDS, M.P., rose also to respond, and said:—I am called upon somewhat unexpectedly. As a brother member has returned thanks for the House of Commons, I really think a junior member might have escaped without making a reply; and I have not the excuse that my worthy friend had in being connected with America. I have, however, been for some years of my life connected with telegraphy. During the number of years that I have been interested in this science it has achieved one of the greatest triumphs that this country or America will ever see—that is, the union between two, we may say, kindred nations, which must tend to the well-being and the prosperity of the world. It has been said that as long as England and France were united they were and would be the policemen of the world. I say, on the contrary, that by the union of England and America, they will, as kindred nations, as brothers and sisters, be the arbiters of power and strength to the world. (Cheers.) Perhaps I may have travelled out of my sphere in going so far in returning thanks for the House of Commons, but depend upon it, Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen, that nobody in the world would be more desirous or more anxious than they, if things were put in a straightforward way, to see that the public money should be applied and expended in the development of such enterprises as telegraphy. Many mistakes are made, anxieties and troubles have occurred, but rely upon it there is no science in the world, no enterprise, no large undertaking that has such a sphere—such a zenith of prosperity before it, as telegraphy. Compare it with our railways. The interest in railway enterprise is nearly as large as our National Debt. Much work in these can only be attained by a very large expenditure of capital to obtain traffic; while you have in telegraphy a much larger sphere for the development of enterprise than you have in railways. In railway matters you are obliged to spend a large sum to maintain a line,—but in telegraphy you may double, quadruple, or centuple your traffic by a small charge for working expenses. In the science of telegraphy, gentlemen, we have done very little; while railways have gone over the world. England is a network of railways, America is also a network of railways; but submarine telegraphy is in its infancy, as has been properly observed in this room to-night. People have asked, how can you invest money in telegraphy? surely it will all go to the bottom of the sea! (Laughter.) A Cable was laid by the English Government, when I was a partner in the firm of Glass, Elliot, & Co., between Malta and Alexandria, about 1,500 miles long. Unfortunately

for those who really understood the matter, those who did not understand it thought they were wiser in preferring to lay the Cable in three sections—wisely or unwisely. It proved it was unwisely. They thought it was better to lay the Cable in shallow water: but it has been found that the only portion of the Cable which has never cost any money, never been seen or heard of, and never been out of repair, is the Cable laid in deep water, between Malta and Tripoli; thus proving by analogy that the Cables laid in deep sea, if properly and honestly laid, and in integrity, are almost indestructible. I think it is more than seven years ago since that Cable was laid; the only portion of that Cable that has not been out of repair is the portion laid in deep sea. The Atlantic Cable, contrary to the general impression existing in the minds of a number of people in respect of that portion embedded in the bottom of the ocean, becomes year after year more secure. I return my sincere thanks for the House of Commons, and I claim to be an honest supporter of the science of telegraphy, and shall be to the end of my life. (Cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD then said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, we have here to-night a gentleman who was one of my earliest friends in the Atlantic Telegraph, and who, for the distinguished part he took in the expeditions of 1857 and 1858, was knighted by Her Majesty. He is now a member of the House of Commons. I hope we shall hear from Sir Charles Bright. (Cheers.)

SIR CHARLES BRIGHT, M.P., rose and said: Mr. Field, Ladies and Gentlemen, I was not expecting to be called upon as a member of the House of Commons this evening, for the occasion upon which we have met together, and the recollections it has brought up, made me lose sight of myself for the time in any other capacity but that of a telegrapher. We have had a most able expression of the kindly feeling and good-will which in reality exists between us in this country and that great nation which is uppermost in our minds to-night, and we have also heard something about the possibilities or contingencies of differences between us. Well, I for one don't think that there is any likelihood of our being very long in an unfriendly position towards each other while such communication as that which we have witnessed in this room continues in operation; for while the electric telegraph is a most deadly instrument in times of war, I regard it as the most effective engine that statesmen can have in their hands for maintaining peace between nations. (Hear, hear.) The changes which an earlier invention of the telegraph would have made in the history of events in the world can hardly now be followed out, and there is room for a treatise to be written by some ingenious person upon the occurrences which would not have happened if telegraphs had been there to prevent them. We need not go far for an example. If we look back at the lamentable war between England and the United States at the beginning of this century, we find that certain Orders in Council, which were obnoxious on the other side of the Atlantic, were actually withdrawn or cancelled at the very time that war was declared on their account by the American Government

So, too, at the end of many wars, it has happened that thousands of lives have been sacrificed through the tardiness of communication ; as, for instance, the battle of Toulouse, after peace had been settled between France and England, which would have had no place in history if electricity had then been trained to our service. That the story of our suppression of the Sepoy Revolt in India, in 1857, would have been a much longer one but for the telegraph is fully recognised ; and, in connection with this, I remember a circumstance at a much earlier date which was at the time almost prophetic. When the telegraph between London and Southampton was opened in 1843, the meeting of the British Association was being held at the latter place. Lord Palmerston, who was a landowner in the neighbourhood, took an active interest in the proceedings, and in referring to the telegraph, he said that the time might come when, supposing a mutiny broke out in India, the Government would telegraph instructions to the Governor-General in Calcutta, as to the steps to be taken to suppress it. And this reminds me, gentlemen, that while we are celebrating the beginning and completion of the Atlantic Telegraph, there remains yet a good deal for us to do—England must have a more perfect communication with her Eastern Colonies—we must have an independent line of our own to India, and onward to Australia, and China. (Cheers.) There are men at this table who have done great things, but there is ample work in the future, and I hope that we may all meet together, at no very distant time, to congratulate ourselves upon the success of further labours, when the seas shall cover wires communicating like nerves between every great centre of thought and action in the world. I should get too enthusiastic, and make a long story of it, were I to attempt to describe the extent to which I expect submarine telegraphy will be carried in the time even of this generation, and I will therefore resume my seat, thanking you again for your kindness in coupling my name with a toast at such a triumphant banquet as this. (Cheers.)

MR. SAMUEL GURNEY, M.P., being called upon, said :—I thank you for the compliment paid in calling upon me. Since the commencement of this undertaking, I have taken the deepest interest in it, and I offer Mr. Field my warmest congratulations upon the success which we have met with, and for the messages received through the Atlantic Ocean. It has reminded me of a soirée I gave at my house some years ago, when I had the honour of seeing many present who are here this evening. Messages were sent from my house to St. Petersburg, Madrid, and other parts of the Continent, and answers received in the same way as we have been sending and receiving messages from America to night ; and I am glad to see the great progress which has been made in telegraphy since that period. (Cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD :—Gentlemen, on Friday evening I had great pleasure in hearing the debate in the House of Commons on the Alabama claims. Before that, I confess to you, I felt exceedingly anxious about the relations between England and the United States, and on Thursday last, on sending a private telegram to my brother in Washington

I used these words—"When you see the President, Mr. Seward, and Mr. Sumner, please say to them that I am perfectly convinced that the English Government and people are very desirous of settling all questions in dispute between the United States and this country; and that, with a little conciliation on both sides, this desirable object can be accomplished." Gentlemen, we are honoured here to-night with the presence of several distinguished persons connected with the press in England and America, and I am going to give you, as a toast, "The Press" of those countries; and I shall ask them, who so well know public opinion, to tell us frankly whether I was justified in sending such a message to Washington.

THE TOAST HAVING BEEN DULY HONOURED,

Mr. WALKER, of the "Daily News," said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very sensible that I owe this call to personal kindness. I cannot admit that we who concern ourselves with the publication of newspapers are on that account entitled to arrogate to ourselves peculiar qualifications for passing judgment in the matter you have brought before us. The question you have put, Sir, is one which may be answered from that kind of observation which is open to us all. There is not a man or woman in this country who cannot tell you instantly and explicitly what is the dominant feeling of England towards America at the present time. Unquestionably we desire—most warmly desire—to entertain friendly and cordial relations with you, as far as we are permitted to do so consistently with the national honour. (Hear, hear.) When a question is raised as to English opinion, we must look beyond the circle of special sympathies and peculiar predilections, and ask what is now thought and said by that large portion of the public who during your great war were doubtful as to the nature of the points at issue, and miscalculated the result. On those I will say that the spectacle—not of your success, but of the qualities you developed in achieving it—of your self reliance, your patience, your faith, and, above all, your moderation in the use of power, has made a deep impression. (Cheers.) There are certain minds so constituted by nature and habit as to be peculiarly susceptible of enthusiasm for a cause; but the mass of mankind will always be more easily affected by the manifestation of noble personal qualities, and of such you have not been sparing. The eminent citizen (Mr. Adams) who is about to leave us has won our esteem and regard, and in another more conspicuous sphere I need only name General Grant. (Hear, hear.) Perhaps, also, there is another cause of this improved feeling. The experience of the last few years has been painfully instructive: we have passed through times in which we must have been very insensible not to have learned many lessons. We in England, as well as you in America, have been made to feel that the freest forms of Government, and the most equitable intentions on the part of the Governors, are not an absolute security against domestic trouble. These things make us forbearing,—they make us ready to make allowances for one another, and I hope this is the spirit in which we shall always conduct our intercourse. We should

each endeavour to look at our differences as far as possible, from the point of view of the other, so that we may come to an understanding. As to this matter of the Alabama claims, at present dividing the two countries, I think we are approximating to an understanding. One after another, misapprehensions have been removed, and I cannot but think that, with the prevailing good disposition on both sides of the Atlantic, the matter will be more easily settled than we in England have been inclined to imagine. (Loud cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD:—Ladies and Gentlemen, I hope we shall hear from our excellent friend Dr. Russell, who was with us on board the *Great Eastern* in the telegraphic expedition of 1865. Dr. Russell is a man whom I respect for the manly way in which he spoke of our struggle, and I hope he will live long to tell the truth about the armies he may visit in any part of the world.

DR. RUSSELL (who was received with loud cheers):—Ladies and Gentlemen, the gentleman who has just sat down represented the press in such an able manner that I might well be excused replying to the toast. Regarding the sentiments of the people of England now with respect to former and present relations between the two countries, I shall add nothing to what he has said; but as to those functions of the press which are discharged on both sides of the Atlantic, I may remark that now and then they resemble in some degree those of the delicate monster described by Caliban, which had two voices. "His forward voice is to utter sweet praises of his friend; his hinder voice is to utter foul speeches and to detract." At the present moment, however, it appears we are both in a peaceable and kindly mood, and God grant it may so continue. (Cheers.) Speaking of the telegraph, I must observe that after all the praises bestowed on that agency so useful in peace, it should be remembered it is also terribly useful in war. You, Sir, have founded one of the most beautiful forms of telegraphy in this Atlantic Cable; but, as an old factionary of the press, who has almost laid aside his weapons, I may remark when you, gentlemen, who have developed this new engine, call on us to join in your praises of its services, and to eulogise its merits, you are very like the inventors of gunpowder, saying to the knights of old clad in bright armour, "Recognise in this agent, and admire, a power with which we shall annihilate you in your coat of proof." The press does not go too fast. The telegraph is certainly not too slow. By its facts are taken in their naked outline, and transmitted so rapidly that you have no time to clothe them. The skeleton comes to us in its dry bones. We scarcely recognise the form of the figure ere it vanishes; and what the press has to do is to labour week after week to put garments on the skeleton, and to show in what condition the figure ought really to step upon the stage. (Hear, hear.) You will excuse me if, being called on to speak to this toast, I refer to an embarrassing, as well as a remarkable instance of my connection with the press; and if I allude to the course I took in my humble capacity, as a representative of the press on the occasion of my visit to America. At the time your great struggle, Sir, was going on, I went to the

United States, and it was my misfortune to witness your first disaster. I was overwhelmed in the rout of Bull Run. I tried to describe it, and I was overwhelmed too. Indeed, I believe I am familiarly known, to any people who know of me at all on the other side of the Atlantic, as "Bull-Run Russell." (Laughter.) It had been my fortune previously, as a camp follower, to have seen battles, repulses, and victories; but it was then my great misfortune to have to describe the fag end of a rout, enveloped as I was in a great crowd of stragglers. Had I measured, at that time, the greatness of the power of the people of the North by the faint-heartedness and despair of Washington, I should have thought the cause of the Union was lost. I will not ask you to do me justice, for it has been already done to me. During the time I was in America I endeavoured to do my duty honestly; and I am sorry the gentleman who made the speech you have heard with so much pleasure, has left his place, for he knows what I had to contend with. During the whole of the time I was in the United States, I never, in the least, despaired of the Republic. I told the people of England what I believed to be the truth. I do not mean to say there was any gift of prophecy in me; but I had been North and South, and I saw which was the stronger. It is not for me to say on which side my feelings, as an Englishman, were; but I knew the side which would win, and said so always. Will you pardon this egotism? I hope it is the last occasion that any member of the press will be called upon to defend the part he took in a controversy between two sections of the United States. I feel convinced that, to use a common speech, "fencing and proving" is apt to provoke ill-feeling. The mistress, scolding in the parlour, is answered by the maid in the kitchen. But let us hope that after all there will be a united happy dwelling in the great mansion which is covered by the broad Saxon roof of tile and by the American shingle, and that it may dwell there in peace whilst it lives, exulting in the pride and glory of its progress and prosperity, in which I trust we may find, at last, that we can make common cause with the great Republic, so that the Anglo-Saxon race may spread over the world the blessings of its peaceful enterprise, and its energetic civilisation. (Loud cheers.)

Colonel ANDERSON, of the "New York Herald:"—Ladies and Gentlemen, it would certainly be ill-advised of me, so young a man, in the presence of so many distinguished and more experienced gentlemen, to occupy your time with any extended observations. During the rebellion it was my fortune to serve in the army of the United States, where I constantly used the telegraph. I have also had some experience as a member of the press. With reference to the telegraph cause, however, so essential to both, I will only say a word. My experience in the army soon convinced me that modern warfare cannot be successfully carried on without the assistance of telegraphy. Certainly, no newspaper or no Government can now be properly conducted without the telegraph; and I may add that I very much doubt whether, in these days of electricity, we could live without a telegraph. (Laughter, and cheers.) I have used this science so habitually that I have found it necessary to have an instrument in my house, and I can communicate with

America like we have been doing from this room this evening. About the message which Mr. Field sent to America the other day, I may say that some months ago I sent a similar one, for I had found that, among a large class of people in England, there was a disposition to settle all disputes with the United States. (Hear, hear.) I am pleased to see, in the press of both countries, evidence of a kindly disposition, and I hope that nothing will ever occur to disturb the friendly relations now existing. I believe that I had the honour of sending the first message for the press through the Atlantic Cable, after it was open for business. That was a message of peace, announcing the end of the war in Germany. I may have to use the telegraph in England for many years, but I sincerely trust that no angry word will ever pass through the Atlantic Cable. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. W. SMALLEY, of the "New York Tribune," said:—Having been away so long from home, I have, perhaps, no right to say what they think there; though the perseverance and enterprise of our friend Mr. Field have brought England so near to America, that we ought to be able to know what is going on at home as if we were living in New York. (Hear.) Independently of that source, I think one is entitled to say that the feeling in America responds to the feeling of Great Britain in a degree which it has not for the last seven years. I heard with pleasure from Mr. Field, that he had sent the Alabama debate to New York, an instance of public spirit for which the two countries owe him a debt of gratitude; for through it, there is, I suppose, this morning, in every journal in America, certainly in every large journal on the eastern coast, full tidings of the debate. It is, perhaps, such a message as was never before sent from one country to another. (Cheers.) It was my fortune to listen to that debate. No newspaper report can give such a notion of the tone and temper of the House as hearing it conveyed to me. It was not only the sincere purpose, it was not only the enthusiasm and earnestness, the good-will to America which every speaker showed, but there was a certain electric sympathy which seemed to pervade the House. It manifested itself in cheers for every liberal sentiment, and every kindly expression that fell from the speakers' lips. Several members of the House came to me as I sat under the gallery, and with what I may be pardoned for calling an almost boyish enthusiasm, said "Is not that capital," as some sentence of conciliation and of justice fell from the lips of Lord Stanley, of Mr. Forster, or of Mr. Mill. (Cheers.) Now, Sir, I should not be loyal to the journal which I represent, if I did not say that this authoritative declaration of a changed feeling in England is sure to be welcome in America. Not one, but many journals came to us from the United States, in advance of this debate, breathing a similar spirit. The cloud which for years has hung between the two countries seems to be passing away, and it would be ungrateful not to believe that a spark along this Cable has helped to dispel it. At any rate, I cannot make a mistake in saying that any disposition to close up the old quarrel, any wish for future union which English lips may utter, is sure to find a cordial echo from the press on the other side of the Atlantic. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. H. LLOYD rose and said :— All pleasures must come to an end, and, Gentlemen this should resolve itself into a committee in the other chamber ; but will you allow me to propose a toast ? I have seen something of the ladies of America, and I am sure we are greatly honoured by the presence of these American ladies this evening—one of them (addressing Mr. Field) your daughter. Another of your daughters is unhappily languishing on a bed of sickness, and to her we will convey our sympathy and our wishes for her speedy recovery. We wish, also, every good to Miss Field, the daughter of Mr. Dudley Field, a brother of Mr. Field, than whom a more accomplished jurist does not exist, or who has done more service to the cause of jurisprudence and equity. We are honoured at seeing amongst us ladies accompanying a man so distinguished as Mr. Cyrus Field ; and it would be unbecoming in us if we were not to express our delight at their presence, and our regret to part from them as we do now. (Cheers.)

Mr. LLOYD THEN PROPOSED "THREE CHEERS FOR THE LADIES," WHICH WERE GIVEN WITH RIGHT GOOD WILL.

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL rose in response to the cheers for the ladies. He said : May I be allowed, having the honour of the acquaintance of these ladies, to acknowledge in their name the toast which has been drunk, and I will also crave permission to propose a toast myself. Before doing so, however, allow me to express the great pleasure I feel at being present in a chamber where men of such influence in both countries are met together with a harmony set forth by the union of these two beautiful flags. As I said in America, on Bunker's Hill, where the two flags were folded together, "I do not know a more beautiful flag in the world than that of the United States, saving that of Great Britain." (Laughter and cheers.) There seems to be a desire with some persons to represent America as hostile to England instead of being friendly. My aim has been to show, as far as I possibly can with truth, that the best part of America is friendly to this country ; but there are people, both here and in America, who seem surprised that I should say this. There is, it is true, a party hostile to us, but I maintain that the best of the people of America are in amity with us. (Loud cheers.) As to the Alabama claims, they are anxious to have that question settled, because they know that, when this temporary cause of disquiet is removed, we are sure of peace between the two countries, for the best part of America, thoroughly loving England, will be more than a match for that section in America which really hates us. (Cheers.) Now for the toast I have the honour of proposing. Many years ago a very interesting sight was witnessed in one of the rural cemeteries of America. There was a funeral. Six men, whose countenances indicated intellectual and moral worth, were carrying a corpse—not carrying it as servants, but carrying it as loving sons—they were carrying their mother to her last resting place. One of these men was a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, another a most distinguished lawyer, another a distinguished clergyman and editor of an influential religious newspaper, another President of the Massachusetts Senate, and another a late member of the

Senate of Massachusetts and an eminent engineer. With reference to the sixth, I may say that, on the last morning I was at New York, I was breakfasting in the house of the sixth of those sons; and then I had the honour and privilege of meeting his amiable and large-hearted wife, his beautiful and accomplished daughters. On that very table at which we breakfasted a document was fourteen years ago written, and signed by five men together, including this sixth brother. They thought, "We can lay down a telegraph wire under the ocean. What will it do? It will facilitate commerce; it will promote civilisation; it will be a promoter of love and harmony; it will convey expressions of affection between those who are separated; it will do much to bind together in peace two great nations. It is worth sacrificing all we possess in order to accomplish such a deed. It is possible to be done; it ought to be done; it *shall* be done." And they signed the document on that very table, this night fourteen years ago. Year after year passed, money was going out, no money was coming in; that sixth brother was the life and soul of the enterprise. He it was whose magnificent faith maintained the struggle year after year. Money was continually required, and I happen to know—I hope I may be excused if I mention the fact to-night, I shall be corrected if I am in error—I happen to know that one demand after another was made for payments on shares for the carrying out of the enterprise, until all the money of that sixth brother was gone. More demands were made, and the horses and carriages were sold, the house was mortgaged, all the furniture, the pictures, even the portraits of his father and mother, and the gold medals that had been presented to himself, had been pledged; for if he had failed to pay his share of the deposit, others might have deserted the enterprise. Even to the last item of property he possessed in the world, all was mortgaged in order that he might not seem to flinch; and during the fourteen years, it was only within the last six months that there was money coming in. It is a most magnificent thing to see a man have such an unwavering faith and such patient waiting for the final triumph of a work like this. (Loud cheers.) That work, whether we consider it as the handmaid of civilisation, whether we consider it as the minister of mercy and love, whether we consider it as a promoter and pledge of international peace, is not only the greatest, but the most beneficent achievement of modern times. The toast I have to give is "The Field Family," and associated with it the name of our honoured friend here, who has united two continents, and has placed under obligations the whole world, and the following generations.

LOUD AND PROLONGED CHEERING FOLLOWED THE REVEREND GENTLEMAN'S SPEECH, AND THE TOAST OF "THE FIELD FAMILY" WAS DRUNK WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM.

MR. CYRUS FIELD (who spoke with great emotion) said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, my heart is too full to speak, you will excuse me. I thank you all most sincerely. I will change the subject. I had the honour of bearing with me from America, and of delivering this day to Mr. John Bright, a letter signed by some of the most distinguished citizens of New York. I had hoped that Mr. Bright would have been with us this

evening, but he is attending to his duties in the House of Commons. This letter I will read to you; it is signed by some of the best men in our city, without distinction of party, and would have been gladly signed by thousands if they had an opportunity. I say, without fear of being contradicted, that there is no living that would receive such a reception in America as John Bright. (Cheers.) He has always been our friend; as well when the sun was shining as when dark clouds hung over our country. I regret more than I can express to you that he is not here to speak for himself. I begged him this morning to let me telegraph to America that he would accept this invitation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.

Dear Sir,—Your friends in America are so anxious to see you that we beg leave to renew at this time the invitation which you have so often received to make a visit to this country.

You will receive a hearty welcome from thousands to whom your name is already familiar, but who desire to hear your voice, and to take you by the hand.

Your presence at this time would tend to strengthen the ties between your country and ours, and we beg leave to suggest a visit during the ensuing Spring, if you can then be indulged in a short respite from your duties in Parliament. Hoping that you may find this possible and convenient,

We are most cordially your friends,

CYRUS W. FIELD,	W. E. DODGE,
PETER COOPER,	WILSON G. HUNT,
WM. C. BRYANT,	A. A. LOW,
DAVID DUDLEY FIELD,	JACKSON S. SCHULTZ,
ISAAC H. BAILEY,	WM. H. VAN BUREN, M.D.
WILLIAM F. BLODGETT,	HAMILTON FISH,
WILLIAM ADAMS, D.D.,	JAMES BROWN,
ALEXANDER T. STEWART.	

To JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., London."

I propose "The health of Mr. John Bright," and shall call upon my countryman, the Hon. Freeman H. Morse, to reply to it.

THE TOAST WAS DRUNK AMIDST LOUD CHEERS.

The Hon. FREEMAN H. MORSE said:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, it would be unkind of me at this late hour of the evening, after it has been proposed to join the ladies in the drawing-room, and when I know many of you are impatient to be under the influence of their fascination, to attempt to hold you here much longer. I well know such an attempt on my part would be useless, and I will therefore say but a few words in response to the call of your Chairman. It would be superfluous if not officious in me, a foreigner, to pronounce in such a presence any eulogium on John Bright; his acts are known, and his influence felt all over the British Empire, for he has been a part of its civil history for the last twenty years. But so far as the feeling in America towards him is concerned, I may be permitted to say, Mr. Chairman, should he ever visit that loved home of ours, his reception by our countrymen will be cordial, hearty, and warm—perhaps I am justified in saying—without doing injustice to the many other true friends America has in these islands, beyond that of any other living man. (Cheers.) America knows and remembers her friends, and would take great pleasure in seeing and welcoming them all, and should any go there who were not so friendly to us in times when even handed-justice and fair dealing, to say nothing of friendliness, were of some importance to her the world over, my countrymen will show how generous and noble it is to forgive and bury the past and all its irritations in their grand march towards a great future. (Hear, hear.) Nearly every gentleman who has been called up this evening has dwelt with much emphasis on the great importance of cultivating, not only amicable relations, but friendship with America. It is gratifying to find this sentiment has now become so universal, and I hope it will be as lasting as it appears to be wide spread; for no two nations ever had more or stronger reasons for forming a close and unbroken alliance than England and America. The perpetuation of friendly relations between free governments depends mainly on the sincerity, good-will, and individual efforts of their citizens. The concentration of individual sentiment into the popular will controls national policies, and when moved by justice, sweeps away narrow and stubborn diplomacy and vicious legislation. Each member of these great free states, then, should bear in mind that he has, to the extent of his influence, their friendly relations in his own keeping, and it is to be hoped that all will prove faithful to so great and sacred a trust. (Cheers.) But, Sir, this topic has been so much dwelt upon this evening, that I forbear further allusion to it, except to say that, when gentlemen put forth the Alabama claims as the only barrier to the most perfect harmony between the two countries, they forget that there are questions concerning expatriation and citizenship to be settled. Since that most satisfactory debate in the House of Commons a few evenings since, all must see that a great stride has been made towards a settlement of the Alabama controversy, and with a fixed purpose on each side that no position shall be taken and adhered to that is not based on justice, and sustained by law, that cause of irritation will soon be removed. The questions of expatriation, naturalisation, and the effect of naturalisation on the nationality of the individual, it would seem, can be easily adjusted, and no serious controversy need be

apprehended from it. So far as I have been able to learn public opinion in this country, it is running all in one direction, and that is against the policy, and I might say the policy of not allowing a man to choose the country of his residence; and claiming him as a loyal subject, even after he has, from choice, to better his condition, given up his allegiance to the country of his nativity, and become a naturalised citizen of, and sworn allegiance to the country of his adoption. (Hear.) Under the laws of this country as they now stand, this claim extends, not only to the naturalised citizen, but to his children who may have been born in the country of his adoption. The rights and liberties of the citizen and the harmony of nations, demand attention to these questions which have been too long overlooked. Frequent interchange of visits, and becoming better acquainted with each other, and the institutions of the two countries, and the habits of the people, have good influences over us all. As Americans we like to come to the "old home," and roam over the land which was once the home of our pilgrim fathers, and from which the ancestors of many of us Americans went out to found an empire beyond the sea. We love to study the early and middle age, and the greatness of modern England, because it is the land of our origin and a part of our own history. When you come to America we cannot show you palaces, castles and churches hoary with age, and ancient remains of an early age, running back into the Roman period; but we can show you a young republic in all the freshness and strength of youthful energy; a nation vast in territory, rich beyond precedent in all the natural resources required to make nations wealthy and prosperous, and a people worthy of such a country. (Cheers.) But little more than half a century ago there was no regular line of communication between the New World and the Old. Perhaps the slave-traders, with their unfortunate victims to man's tyranny and avarice, made the transit across the Atlantic with as much regularity as any other class of traders. What a change has been wrought within the present century! That infamous slave-trade was first broken up, and slavery itself has gone to its place among the barbarisms of the past, and the ocean is covered with the sails of peaceful commerce; swift steamers are almost constantly arriving from and departing to America; and now, Sir, the greatest triumph of this or any other age has been accomplished; you and your companions have converted the great ocean itself into a vast whispering gallery, and have sent the glad tidings of peace and good-will from nation to nation, thousands of miles apart, and receiving answers back since we took our seats at these tables. Truly, Sir, we live in an age of great enterprises and startling results. (Loud cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD:--Ladies and Gentlemen, it took us fourteen consecutive days and nights to lay the Atlantic Cable, and are you, in accordance with the suggestion of Mr. Lloyd, going to desert us at this early hour? We have a great deal more to do yet. I have now great pleasure in proposing "The health of the Capitalists who so liberally came forward and furnished, at the needful moment, the means to lay the Cable of 1866, and to recover that of 1865," and coupling with it, the health of my excellent friend, Mr. Thomas Brassey.

MR. THOMAS BRASSER. — My good friend, Mr. Field, I really feel deeply honoured by the manner in which you have been pleased to couple my name with those of the capitalists of this great enterprise. After what we have heard from Sir Charles Bright and others, we may say we have great reason to be proud, although, at the time the English capitalists came to this undertaking, the prospects were not so bright as they are now; but with such a chief as our friend Mr. Field, inspiring, as he did in me and my friends, confidence in the undertaking, we had no thought of backing out, but went forward to the successful issue which we meet this evening to celebrate. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, we have been very fortunate, very fortunate indeed, in having had confidence in our chief, and in those gentlemen who are sitting around this table, for a safe conduct of the enterprise. I think a man of fair knowledge and reasonable reliance could not hesitate to venture in carrying out such an undertaking as it has been our good fortune to join in. Sir, I thank you for the attention you have paid to the capitalists, of whom I am a very humble individual, although I have always taken a great interest in the Atlantic Telegraph; and wherever you hang your flag, Sir, and wherever you ask us to go in investing our money in Submarine Cables, I will follow you with pleasure, and I am sure others can do so with safety; assured of contributing to some great, profitable, and useful enterprise. (Loud cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD. — I have, Gentlemen, now to propose — "Success to the Extension of Submarine Telegraphy to India, to China, to Australia, to South America, and Progress and Prosperity to Telegraphic Enterprise all over the World!" and I shall call upon my friend Captain Sir James Anderson, who so successfully commanded the *Great Eastern* during the laying and picking up of the Atlantic Cable. (Cheers.)

CAPTAIN SIR JAMES ANDERSON. — Mr. Field, in the absence of Captain Sherard Osborn, I can have no difficulty or hesitation in responding to such a toast as that you have given — "Success to Telegraphy all over the World!" — and more particularly from the fact that it would benefit all of us engaged in that kind of enterprise. (Laughter.) There is, besides, an agreeable sentiment, I take it, in the pleasure of contributing in any way to an enterprise which will unite the whole world in a very few minutes. Gentlemen, Mr. Field told me the other day that there was sent a telegram from Valentia in Ireland, to San Francisco in California, and repeated back again within 10 minutes. This is surely quick enough for any one. (Hear, hear.) The same rate of speed would, if a telegraph was built, take a message round the globe in four minutes. To have a share in laying Cables around the world, is something to be proud of. (Cheers.) I am very glad indeed Mr. Field is here to night. I hope to find, in some way or other, the whole world within a very few years, be encompassed by that intercourse of thought and sentiment which the telegraph promotes. (Cheers.)

MR. CYRUS FIELD. — In response to the same toast, I call upon Sir Charles Fox, who was one of the earliest friends of telegraphy in England.

SIR CHARLES FOX.—Mr. Cyrus Field and Gentlemen.—No one has, I think, formed a more decided opinion of the nature of the enterprise known as the Atlantic Telegraph than I have. It has been my pleasure to know Cyrus Field for many years, and to have had many interesting conversations with him upon this very important subject. There was a time when I considered him enthusiastic—too enthusiastic. Because when I told him I felt sure there were difficulties in the way of laying the Atlantic Telegraph, he turned round with some disdain and said, "My dear Sir, there is no difficulty, we shall get rid of all difficulty." (Laughter.) I confess at that time I did not believe it, but now I succeeded. In my younger days I thought Southwark Bridge a very important job, and that when Robert Stephenson achieved the great work of the Britannia Bridge, he also had done a great work; and I further thought that I had done a great thing in erecting, in so short a time, the Exhibition Building of 1851; but I now think, with regard to the satisfactory laying of the Atlantic Cable, that there has been no work yet done by man equal to it. And I think I may say, without fear of contradiction, that it would never have been achieved had it not been for the indomitable perseverance of Cyrus Field. (Cheers.) We have been saying much about Submarine Telegraphs, and I do not think we ought to forget the efforts made by men before this period; and I wish that Sir Charles Wheatstone had been here to answer to the toast that I shall have the honour to propose in his honour. In the year 1837, upwards of thirty years ago, I was commissioned by the Directors of the London and Birmingham Railway Company, in conjunction with Sir Charles, then Mr. Wheatstone, to advise as to the possibility of sending telegraphic messages through long wires. These experiments were made under my charge at the Euston Station, and in September, 1837, I wrote a letter to Mr. Cooke, then Professor Wheatstone's partner, of which the following is a copy.

LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, CAMDEN STATION.
September 18th, 1837.

My Dear Sir,—I have great pleasure in adding my testimony to that of many others, who have been gratified by witnessing the very beautiful experiments exhibited by yourself and Professor Wheatstone, to prove the practicability of transmitting signals by means of electro-magnetic fluid.

Nothing can have been more satisfactory than these experiments, which have placed beyond a doubt that the principle may be applied with unerring certainty.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) CHARLES FOX,
Resident Engineer.

W. F. COOKE, ESQ.

(LOUD CHEERS.)

And I wrote also a similar letter to the London and North-Western Company. I was laughed at by almost every one, in consequence, who said it was a "visionary idea" and "witchcraft," and instead of being permitted to lay the electric telegraph between Euston Station and Camden Town, for the purpose of starting and stopping the stationary engine at the latter point, I had to lay down a pneumatic apparatus, which was in use very many years. The Directors of the Railway Company would have nothing to do with the telegraph, because, as they said, it was too visionary. In, I think, the following year, I was asked by a gentleman, connected with the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Company, to tell him what I considered would be the best mode of communicating from the Glasgow Station to the Cowairs Station; also for the purpose of starting and stopping the stationary engine there. "Now," said I, "If you would take my advice, you would use the electric telegraph," and I thereupon, with his consent, put up a telegraph between those stations. The Company's servants christened it, "the witchcraft line" on the London and Birmingham Line, "witchcraft." They did not say "work the signals," but "work the witchcraft," and at the Glasgow Station you will, I believe, find that at the present moment they make use of the word "witchcraft," instead of the word "telegraph." (Laughter.) I think it would be very wrong for us to go away without paying a tribute to the brilliant Electrician Professor Sir Charles Wheatstone, who was the first inventor of telegraphy in England. I shall call for three cheers for Professor Sir Charles Wheatstone.

This being readily responded to, three cheers were immediately afterwards given, at the suggestion of Mr. Field, for Professor S. F. B. Morse, LL.D., who, at about the same time, was establishing telegraphic communications in America, and whose instruments are now used in all parts of the civilised world.

MR. CYRUS W. FIELD:—I now propose a toast, which we will drink in silence, "The memory of Richard Cobden, who proposed to the late Prince Consort that the profits of the Exhibition of 1851 should be devoted to the establishment of telegraphic communication between England and America, and who, later, desired that the English Government should supply one-half of the capital necessary to establish telegraphic communication across the Atlantic." Mr. Cobden's argument was this:—"I am opposed to the Government paying more than one-half of the capital necessary to establish telegraphic communication across the Atlantic. If you fail, then Government pay nothing. I will pay the other half, but I will not pay it with all my power that the Government shall supply one-half the money necessary to establish telegraphic communication between England and America, and, in the event of failure, the Government shall pay nothing." (Hear, hear.) If the Government followed his advice, they would to-day be receiving half the dividends on the Anglo-American and Atlantic Telegraph Stocks. I hope this consideration may lead them to follow his advice, and to extend the telegraph to India, China, and Australia. (Cheers.)

THIS TOAST WAS DRUNK IN SILENCE, ALL PRESENT RISING.

WILLIAM SIR JAMES ANDERSON:—I have already spoken once. I recollect having a music-box, and it used to play seven tunes until I put it in the nursery, and the children then let it play one tune. Anything said about myself now would be like the one tune of the music-box. I need only say, what I have often said before, that I am glad to be one who has assisted in the great field of enterprise which has been brought to bear upon the Atlantic Cable. (Cheers.)

MR. CHARLES EDWARDS, M.P.:—Mr. Chairman and friends, it is now rather late, and, as Sir James Anderson has remarked, with a finishing party one cannot feel very enthusiastic, but I must first satisfy myself by returning you sincere thanks for my friend Sir Richard Glass's Health and Travels, and send to the Atlantic Cable would have been without the assistance of Mr. Cato, I believe, for I can assert that the Atlantic Cable has been much aided by the indomitable perseverance of Sir Richard Glass. I do not think that I can say too much for you to night, and I only wish it was not the present day, every one would be glad to read the article, that I might have an opportunity of saying to them, and of repeating my sense of the great service afforded to the world by Sir Richard Glass. I have watched him day by day when toiling with his pen, and I have seen him when he has been so long, never looked back, and I think you will be glad to see the Atlantic Cable completed, and then put in the right place, and I think you will be glad to see Sir Richard Glass, and I hope that you will be glad to see him back to us. I have lately hoped that my worthy friend Mr. Brown, who sat beside me, will induce him to come back, and take renewed interest in the work, in which he has won such great success. (Cheers.)

Mr. CYRUS FIELD :—I have received telegrams from Cuba, which I will read. The first is as follows :—

"CIENFUEGAS, 10th March, 1868, 4.8 p.m.

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *Palace Hotel, London.*

I see with pleasure and enthusiasm the progress momentarily acquired by science, and I await with anxiety the day when I shall receive from you the announcement that this place is also united by telegraph with the rest of the American Continent, by Panama, as it will be another impulse towards the prosperity of this island.

LERSUNDI,

Captain-General of Cuba."

And the next is also from the Captain-General :—

"CIENFUEGAS, 10th March, 1868.

CYRUS W. FIELD, Esq., *Palace Hotel, London.*

HONOUR to the scientific event that telegraphy has just performed. Honour to the men who by their perseverance have obtained such an important miracle. May the instantaneous intercourse carried on by means of the wonderful synthesis of civil action, electricity, be an indissoluble bond of union and fraternity between both Continents.

FRANCISCO LEERSUNDI,

Captain-General of Cuba."

May I now call your attention for a moment to a picture opposite to me, which has been completed this day by Mr. Robert Dudley, of one of the most interesting scenes that I ever witnessed—a scene that certainly produced a great impression on my mind. It was the moment when, after the Cable had been recovered on the *Great Eastern*, it had been brought into the Electrician's room and the test was applied to see whether it was alive or dead. Never shall I forget that eventful moment when, in answer to our question to Valentia whether the Cable of 1866, which we had a few weeks previously laid, was in good working order, and the Cable across the Gulf of St. Lawrence had been repaired : in an instant came back those six memorable letters—"Both, O. K." (Cheers.) I left that room. I went to my cabin; I locked the door; I could no longer restrain my tears—crying like a child, and full of gratitude to God that I had been permitted to live to witness the recovery of the Cable we had lost from the *Great Eastern* just thirteen months previous. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

THE PARTY BROKE UP AT A VERY LATE HOUR.

After the Banquet the following letter was received from Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N., C.B.:—

“ 119, GLOUCESTER TERRACE, HYDE PARK, W.,

March 11th, 1868.

My Dear Mr. Field,—I owe you an apology for having failed to wait until the toast intended for me to reply to came on at your pleasant dinner. The fault was not mine, however, but that of your eloquent friend, Mr. Lloyd, who proposed ‘The Ladies’ in what appears to have been the middle instead of the end of the dinner. I considered it ‘the signal for sea,’ and weighed accordingly, making all sail home. I cannot, however, allow this accident to prevent me expressing to you how I intended to have borne testimony to the enormous service your energy, untiring advocacy, and ceaseless faith must have been to the cause of submarine telegraphy. The capital and the machinery may, as I have been told, have been for the most part found in the Old Country; but it was the zeal and restless pluck of the New World, concentrated in such as you, that gave life to the gold and silver which wrought the Atlantic Cables. I have during the past year been only too deeply impressed with the services you must thus have rendered; for in our English efforts to extend eastward to India—a system similar to the Atlantic Cables—there has been no Cyrus Field to help us. We need for the East an apostle of telegraphy, such as you were to the Western world. We have fallen into ruts; vested interests on the one hand, and the desire of Germany and Russia to secure in their hands the telegraphic traffic between America and England and the Indies, have as yet been too much for us. And to-day, if Lord Stanley, and Sir Stafford Northcote sat as your guests, though the former could obtain an answer to a query from his delegate at Washington in a few minutes, thanks to the Atlantic Cables, I believe the latter would have to wait a reply from the Governor-General of Hindostan for at least a week—a period too long even to keep us all round your hospitable board.

To your toast I reply. The extension of direct telegraphy to all parts of the East, whether India, Australia, and China, is certain. We have spared, and shall spare, no time or trouble, or expense, to induce our Government and our countrymen to support us; and all I would ask you is, to give us your aid and support—for the tale you can so well tell, Sir, of persistence in adversity and of the happy issue of a great commercial success in the Atlantic Cables, must carry conviction to the minds of all, in time, in this country, when they learn that with *far less risk* there is far richer harvest to be reaped. The railway and the steam-ship are fast

revolutionising the East, from Japan to Suez; it only needs the final electric touch of perfect telegraphic communication to hasten mankind forward to that consummation when all shall be of one family and, please God, one faith.

Believe me, Dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

CYRUS W. FIELD, ESQ.,

Palace Hotel."

S. OSBORN.

STATEMENT of the hour at which the various Telegrams were despatched, and the time when the Replies thereto were received in the Banqueting Room, on the Evening of the 10th March, 1868.

To Whom Sent.	Destination.	When Sent.	Time of Receipt of Reply.	Period between the Sending of Message and Receipt of Answer.
Mrs. CYRUS FIELD	New York	P. M. 6.57	P. M. 8.23	One hour & twenty-six minutes
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	Washington	7.2	9.14	Two hours & twelve minutes
TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE	Washington	7.5	9.30	Two hours & twenty-five minutes
PETER COOPER, Esq.	New York	7.10	8.18	One hour & eight minutes
GENERAL SMITH	New York	7.19	9.19	Two hours
COLONEL SANFORD	New York	7.19	8.25	One hour & six minutes
WILLIAM ORTON, Esq.	New York	7.20	9.36	Two hours & sixteen minutes
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CUBA	Havannah	7.22	9.46	Two hours & twenty-four minutes
GOVERNOR OF NEWFOUNDLAND	St. John's	7.26	8.4	Thirty-eight minutes
STAFF OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN AND NEWFOUNDLAND COMPANIES AT HEART'S CONTENT	Heart's Content, Newfoundland	7.30	7.36	Six minutes
A. M. MACRAY, Esq.	St. John's, Newfoundland	7.53	9.16	One hour & twenty-three minutes

Many of the above Messages had to be sent some distance to the residences of the various parties to whom they were addressed, and delay was necessarily incurred before their replies were sent to the Telegraph Office for transmission.

